

MISSOURI PREVIEW



THE ORIGINAL MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO NEBRASKA ATHLETICS

HUSKERS

ILLUSTRATED

300 & COUNTING

CURENSKI GILLEYLEN AND THE HUSKERS ROUT THE RAGIN' CAJUNS



OCTOBER 8, 2009 | VOLUME 29 | NO. 11 | \$3.95





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HUSKERS

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OCTOBER 8, 2009 • VOLUME 29 • NO. 11

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Volume 29, Issue 12 recapping the Missouri game will be mailed on Tuesday, Oct. 13. Check for updates at huskersillustrated.com.

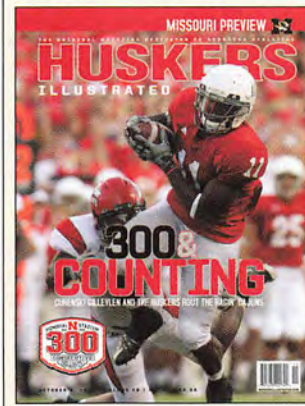
HUSKERS

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ON THE COVER

Sophomore wide receiver Curenski Gilleylen hauled in two catches for 85 yards to lead the Huskers to a 55-0 win over Louisiana-Lafayette and lock up a win in Nebraska's 300th consecutive sellout at Memorial Stadium.

Photo by Aaron Babcock



IT'S SHOWTIME

Celebration marks beginning of "regular season"



NEBRASKA PUT ON a show Saturday night.

Yes, the 55-0 display by the Huskers was something to see, but I was also referring to the entertainment the university provided to celebrate the 300th sellout.

Most fans don't realize that the preparation for an event such as this requires over a year of vision, planning and execution. It takes the cooperation and overtime hours of countless individuals. And even with relentless work, things don't always go as planned.

But the university nailed the 300th sellout celebration and for that I would like to congratulate them. Husker fans packed the Husker Nation Pavilion prior the game and stuffed the Memorial Stadium seats late into the night.

The production by HuskerVision was superb and the postgame celebration was a reminder of how great it felt to be the best in the nation.

Congratulations on a job well done.

The Huskers held up their responsibility for the night's festivities by disposing of the Ragin' Cajuns in dominating fashion.

In fact, I can't imagine there is a better

kicking duo than that of Alex Henery and Adi Kunalic. They might just turn kicking into a rock-star profession.

But before they can take the stage, Nebraska has a regular season to face. The preseason is over.

The real games start on Oct. 8 at Missouri and head coach Bo Pelini said as much after the game.

"I love the attitude of this football team and how they came back after the trouble we had last week," Pelini said. "I liked the way they came out. We didn't play perfect by any means, but we did some good things in all phases.

"Now the season starts. Right now. That's the way we look at it, that's the way I look at it. It's time to put the foot on the gas pedal and go because we have a long season ahead of us and a lot of challenges coming up."

If you've been paying attention to the early scores, the Big 12 North is officially up for grabs and it begins in a snake pit known as Columbia, Mo., in front of a nationally televised audience.

So let the games begin. **N**

Send me your comments or story ideas to aaron@huskersillustrated.com.

HUSKERS

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This year will mark the first-ever official gameday event for fans of Huskers Illustrated. We have teamed up with the Holiday Inn to launch The Huddle @ The Holiday Inn Downtown on gamedays.

Huskers Illustrated will be hosting a two-hour pre-game show on location, hosted by Chris Schmidt, Mike Babcock and Sean Callahan and will feature special guests each week! We'll break down the game, discuss the state of the Huskers and update you on the latest recruiting news. It will without a doubt be your most informative pre-game option.

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GRACIOUS HOSTS

We were at the game and I first must say the fans were the best I have seen. Everywhere we went before the game they said "thanks for coming" and shook our hands. In the tailgate area, Lot 8, they played the Nebraska fight song twice before the game to get the

Nebraska fans going - we tailgated with more Virginia Tech fans than Nebraska fans. I would go back again in a minute.

Also, I appreciated the amount of Nebraska fans that went to the memorial, all you could see was red. This was not about football but about people coming together.

My two thoughts of the game - this was a game of two's, meaning VT had two big plays and we missed two conversions (throwing on 2nd and 3rd down with less than a yard to go, and not going for the 4th-and-1 to get a first down to win the game.

Well that's all I got, had a great time stayed at the hotel with the players, got some great shots, We do have a great team of kids.

TIM HOFFMAN

game went along. They just couldn't "finish" the drives that they made and instead of a substantial WIN, they gave it away - along the way - a drive at a time. If we would have won, it would have been an unsatisfactory effort, but a win nonetheless. I too believe this one will be hard for everyone to "get past." It was so unnecessary, really.

I hope it will be a point to build off of. A time for serious reflection and growing up.

Thanks for the great insights and thoughts on a tough Saturday in Virginia.

SHERRIE GREGORY

Lincoln, Nebraska



INABILITY TO FINISH

I agree with everything you said (in last week's letter from the editor) and this is exactly what I felt as the

HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM FAN POLL

Obviously, you want to win each game, but which Big 12 North team do you enjoy beating the most?

460 TOTAL VOTES

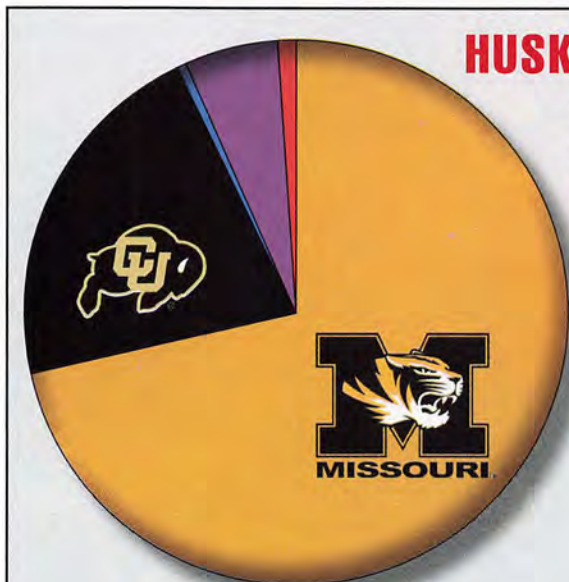
MISSOURI 328(72%)

COLORADO 98(21%)

KANSAS 3(1%)

KANSAS STATE 25(5%)

IOWA STATE 5(1%)



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MISSOURI MISERY

Nebraska will be looking to negate a developing pattern when it travels to Columbia, Mo., to open Big 12 play on the night of Oct. 8. The Cornhuskers have lost their last three games at Faurot Field, where their all-time record is 21-18-1. And they've allowed 41 points in each of those games.

Missouri won 41-24 in 2003 and 2005 and 41-6 in 2007.

Nebraska has dominated the series with the Tigers, in large part because of a 24-game winning streak snapped by the 2003 loss in Columbia. Prior to **BOB DEVANEY'S** arrival in 1962, the Cornhuskers held only a slight advantage (28-23-3), including five consecutive losses in the series.

The losing streak increased to six as Missouri handed Devaney his first loss as Nebraska's head coach 16-7 at Memorial Stadium, the day the Huskers' home sellout streak began.

Missouri also handed **TOM OSBORNE** his first loss as head coach, 13-12 at Columbia in 1973. In fact, Osborne didn't coach his first victory against the Tigers until 1975, 30-7 at Columbia, and he didn't coach a victory against them at Memorial Stadium until 1980, when Nebraska won 38-16.

Fans were upset with Osborne about five consecutive losses against Oklahoma to begin his coaching tenure (six including Devaney's final season), and his start against Missouri didn't

make things better. After his 1978 team finally beat Oklahoma 17-14 to climb to No. 2 in the Associated Press poll and position itself for a national title shot, the celebration came to a crashing halt a week later, when **WARREN POWERS** brought the Tigers to Memorial Stadium and left with a 35-31 victory.

What aggravated the situation was that Powers had played for Devaney and been an Osborne assistant before leaving to be the head coach at Washington State – and directing the Cougars to a 19-10 upset of Nebraska at Memorial Stadium in his first game as head coach in 1977.

Devaney's first nine games against Missouri featured a personal match-

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TEAM GAME: Senior safety **MATT O'HANLON** took a lot of fan criticism following the Virginia Tech game for the 81-yard pass play that set up the winning touchdown. "I've been there," said coach **BO PELINI**. "You recover. You make a mistake, unfortunately . . . believe me, it wasn't just the safety (O'Hanlon). It was a couple of things that contributed to that happening. You've got to correct it."

O'Hanlon would be fine, Pelini said. "He's a strong, tough-minded kid. People forget that's the same kid who knocked the ball down in the Gator Bowl, saved that football game. One play doesn't define somebody. People are going to analyze it and point and say that was Matt O'Hanlon only, but it wasn't."

up with Tigers coach **DAN DEVINE**, with whom Devaney had been an assistant at Michigan State.

The first of Devaney's three seasons as an assistant the Spartans defeated UCLA 28-20 in the 1954 Rose Bowl. The trip wasn't that big of a deal, Devaney wrote in his 1981 autobiography.

He and Devine were "low men on the totem pole" he wrote. As such, they didn't even get Rose Bowl watches. "Danny felt so bad about being left out that he bought one."

During Devaney's tenure as Nebraska's coach, Don Faurot, Missouri's athletic director (1957-67) after coaching the Tigers and the man in whose honor the field is named, "raised a big ruckus about false weights appearing in game programs," Devaney wrote.

"So the Big Eight instituted what they called a 'true weight.'"

The "true weight" was supposed to be determined by players' being weighed with media members present, according to Devaney. Imagine such a requirement now.

SIDELINES



ROY'S ENDORSEMENT

Juniors **ERIC HAGG** and **PRINCE AMUKAMARA** are in the regular rotation in the secondary this season, which comes as no surprise to teammate **ROY HELU, JR.** At the Big 12 Media Days in late July, Helu was asked about Hagg's potential. "He's one of the best athletes that I've ever known, he and Prince Amukamara," Helu replied. "It just so happens that they're coming into their own this year."

"Both of them are two of my buddies, and I can honestly tell you that mentally they're taking it to a whole new level, and I think will show on the field. They have a whole bunch of potential."

"It's crazy how much God has really blessed them."

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twitter



FAN SUPPORT

During his weekly news conference on the Tuesday before the Louisiana-Lafayette game, Nebraska's 300th consecutive home sellout, coach **BO PELINI** commended Cornhusker fans. "Everything entailed, that's going into this weekend, just shows me – I guess I'm searching for the word – epitomizes the fan base here, the loyalty of the fans and the passion of the fans," he said.

"I think that gets lost sometimes. You think of a sellout streak and you think of the amount of people that come to the games and fill the stadium. But when you've been other places, as I have, and you've been around the country, the visiting people who come into this stadium and the respect that people walk out of here for our fan base and the classiness of the fans that fill that stadium is something that really touches people that come in here.

"It's something to be proud of that opposing teams, opposing coaches, everybody comes out of here saying, 'Wow, it's different here than any place else.' "

NO SECOND-GUESSING

The decision was much discussed following Nebraska's 16-15 loss at Virginia Tech. With 1:51 remaining and the Cornhuskers facing fourth-and-1 at the Virginia Tech 37-yard

line, coach **BO PELINI** elected to punt rather than try for a first down that likely would have ensured victory.

If he had it to do over, Pelini was asked, would he go for the first down. "I would not," he said. "It was a little more than 1 (yard); it was almost 2. I just felt like the right thing in that situation was to punt. I had total confidence that they weren't going to score. To be honest with you, I didn't even consider it. I really didn't. If it would have been less than 1, (if) it would have been a short 1, I might have done it.

"It was the right thing for me, in my mind, in that position, to punt it. Have I thought about should I have gone for it? Obviously, I re-think 50 decisions I made in that football game."

ALEX HENERY punted, and Virginia Tech had to start at its own 12-yard line with 1:44 remaining.

Had the game been high-scoring, however, instead of a defensive battle, Pelini would have gone for the first down. "You better believe it," he said. "I just felt we were in control of the game defensively. I really did. Barring a break down, I thought we were in control.

"I didn't do a good enough job on that last drive."

SIDELINES

TOUCHDOWNS NEEDED

Nebraska almost won at Virginia Tech without scoring a touchdown. The last time the Cornhuskers won a game without scoring a touchdown was Nov. 27, 1937 at Kansas State.

The game was played in a driving rain, and first-year coach **BIFF JONES'** team won 3-0 when senior guard **LOWELL ENGLISH** kicked a field goal of about 30 yards.

The shutout was Nebraska's fifth in the 6-1-2 season. The Cornhuskers defeated Missouri and Indiana 7-0 and Iowa 28-0, while playing Oklahoma to a scoreless tie.

Jones' predecessor **D.X. BIBLE** coached two victories without a touchdown during his eight seasons at Nebraska. On Nov. 17, 1934, **VIRGIL YELKIN'S** field goal midway through the fourth quarter produced a 3-0 in the rain at Kansas, and on Nov. 19, 1932, **BERNIE MASTERSON'S** field goal late in the third quarter gave the Cornhuskers all the points they needed to win at Oklahoma. **STEVE HOKUF** provided insurance points by tackling a Sooner in the end zone with about 4 minutes remaining in the 5-0 victory.

IDENTITY THEFT REPORT:

IDENTITY THEFT UP 22%, HITS 5-YEAR HIGH

Leader in I.D. Theft Protection Strikes Back with Free Protection Offer for All

TEMPE, ARIZONA – Identity theft has topped the Federal Trade Commission's list of consumer complaints for the past eight years.

Now, a stunning new survey shows a record 9.9 million Americans were victims of identity theft last year – a shocking 22% increase over the prior year – according to Javelin Strategy & Research. This news mirrors a just-released report from the Federal Trade Commission that cites a 21% increase in identity theft complaints during the same period.

Apparently, individual consumers are not the only ones at risk: a recent review cited by the Wall Street Journal reports that the cost of information breaches to U.S. companies was also on the rise, with the average total per-incident cost in 2008 rising to \$6.65 million*.

These studies send a clear message: in the wake of the global economic crisis, identity theft is a big business. It's up to consumers to take proactive steps to protect themselves.

That's why for a limited time, LifeLock, the industry leader in identity theft protection, is offering 30 days of guaranteed identity theft protection service at no cost.

"All you have to do is call 1-877-424-5027 for an individual membership, or 1-877-424-5051 if you are enrolling more than one member," said Todd Davis, the CEO of LifeLock known for giving out his real Social Security number in advertising to show his confidence in

the service. "It's that simple."

Immediately upon enrollment, all LifeLock members are protected by LifeLock's \$1 Million Total Service Guarantee.

Why should you protect your identity? Consider some of the Javelin survey's specific findings:

According to the survey, more than one in every ten victims knew the person who stole their identity.

It also appears identity thieves are moving dramatically faster than they used to when it comes to actually using stolen information. The Javelin survey revealed incidents of using stolen information within just a week of the theft more than doubled from 33% to 71% over the past three years.

The Javelin survey revealed women are 26% more likely to be victims than men. The survey also named higher income consumers (households with combined incomes of \$75,000 or more) to be at higher risk. Latinos were named the most likely demographic group to become victims of new account theft. Latinos are 47% more likely to become victims, versus 32% of all victims. It's important to point out that no one can stop all identity theft, but what LifeLock doesn't stop, they fix at their expense, up to \$1 million.

To get LifeLock free for 30 days during this special offer, call 1-877-424-5027 for individual memberships, 1-877-424-5051 for multiple enrollments, and use promo code FREEMONTH.



Todd Davis, CEO of identity theft protection company LifeLock, demonstrates his confidence by sharing his Social Security number: 457-55-5462. To protect yourself FREE for 30 days call today and use promotion code FREEMONTH.

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Call one of the numbers below to protect your family FREE for 30 days. Representatives are available 24 hours a day. Hurry – this exclusive offer is limited only to those that call and use the promotion code below.

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MULTIPLE

TEL: 1-877-424-5051

PROMO CODE: FREEMONTH



Kim Barnes

"When I first learned about a company called LifeLock that protects families from identity theft, my husband was skeptical. I signed us up anyway, and forgot about it. A couple of months later, on a family vacation, my husband received a phone call asking if he was applying for a new credit card. Someone was trying to steal his identity. LifeLock had stopped the thief cold."



Bobby Jo Harris

"I'm a former chief of police of a major city. I knew identity theft was a \$50 billion a year business, and a prime focus of organized crime. But they got me anyway. Even though I was a senior law enforcement official, it took weeks to clear my name. I decided: never again. A reporter recommended LifeLock to me and I tried them out. I've never had a problem since. I highly recommend them to you."



Earl Laurie

"I had seen a news report about LifeLock. The reporter tried to use the CEO's Social Security number to open new accounts and couldn't. That's when I signed up. Later, I heard from the Navy and the VA that they had lost my private information. Then someone tried to open two credit card accounts under my name. They tried to steal my identity, but LifeLock worked exactly like they said it would."



Zach Friesen

"My identity was stolen when I was seven, but I didn't find out until ten years later when I was denied a student loan and a job due to poor credit. That's when I discovered I was \$40,000 in debt because someone purchased a houseboat in my name. It took over ten years to clear my name. You can be sure my kids will be protected by LifeLock."



Aaron Freeman

"Thieves broke into my home and got everything – my passport, birth certificate, Social Security card. They could have ruined me financially. So I put LifeLock to the test. A few days later, I started getting phone calls that the thieves were trying to open new credit accounts. LifeLock's system worked just like they said it would and stopped the thieves cold."

Never give your Social Security number out unnecessarily. Source: Javelin 2009 Identity Fraud Survey Report. *Source: M.P. McQueen, "Data Breaches Cost Businesses More", Wall Street Journal, February 2, 2009

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GONE, THEN BACK

Redshirted freshman running back **COLLINS OKAFOR**, a scholarship recruit from Omaha, left the team in mid-September, for a day. Coach **BO PELINI** released a statement confirming that Okafor had left the team. The next day, however, Okafor was back at practice.

"Collins was a little frustrated," said Pelini. "I told him you need to be happy where you are. He needed some time to kind of figure things out. My intent was I wanted him on our football team, but he's got to want to be on our football team. I gave him a little bit of time to figure it out."

"Collins has ability; he's just raw right now. He's still learning the game. Sometimes you think as a player – it happens to a lot of

young men – they think short-term rather than long-term and big picture. I think once he thought things through he realized this is where he wants to be. So we left the door open for him. He said, 'I want to come back,' and I said, 'Let's go.' To me it was an easy decision."

LOOKING AHEAD

With this year's non-conference schedule in the bag, it's worth looking forward at Nebraska 2010 and 2011 non-conference foes:

Sept. 4, 2010	Western Kentucky
Sept. 11, 2010	Idaho
Sept. 18, 2010	at Washington
Sept. 25, 2010	South Dakota State
Sept. 10, 2011	Fresno State
Sept. 17, 2011	Washington
Sept. 24, 2011	at Wyoming

SIDELINES



ONE-POINT DEFEATS

Nebraska's one-point loss at Virginia Tech was only the sixth by such a slim margin for the Cornhuskers since **BOB DEVANEY** succeeded **BILL JENNINGS** as coach in 1962.

The five previous one-point losses also came on the road:

- ▶ 29-28, at Kansas State in 2000;
- ▶ 31-30, against Miami in the 1984 Orange Bowl game (the Hurricanes played their home games at the Orange Bowl stadium);
- ▶ 21-20, at Wisconsin in 1974;
- ▶ 13-12, at Missouri in 1973;
- ▶ 10-9, at Oklahoma in 1966.

During that time, the Cornhuskers have won by a single point eight times:

- ▶ 41-40, Ball State in 2007;
- ▶ 28-27, at Texas A&M in 2006;
- ▶ 7-6, Pittsburgh in 2005;
- ▶ 21-20, at Kansas in 1993;
- ▶ 14-13, at UCLA in 1993;
- ▶ 21-20; against LSU in the 1983 Orange Bowl game;
- ▶ 10-9, Kansas in 1973;
- ▶ 13-12, at Missouri in 1963.



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For Henery, kicking is an exact science

ALEX HENERY is still getting his kicks, and making them, despite a new holder and long-snapper. The junior from Omaha, who was put on scholarship this season, was selected as the Big 12 Special Teams Player of the Week following the Cornhuskers' 16-15 loss at Virginia Tech. Henery kicked five field goals, in five attempts, and averaged 41.5 yards on six punts, including a 76-yarder.

The five-for-five field goals gave him six-for-seven for the season and 32-for-37 for his career. His career percentage (.864) dropped slightly, however, a reflection of how successful he has been.

Henery kicked four field goals (in four attempts) three times last season, all victories, against Western Michigan, against Colorado and against Clemson in the Gator Bowl game.

The Western Michigan field goals all were from 44 yards. The fourth field goal against Colorado, with 1:43 remaining and Nebraska trailing, was from a school-record 57 yards.

The long-snapper then was **T.J. O'LEARY**, the holder **JAKE WESCH**. Now true freshman **P.J. MANGIERI** snaps and redshirted freshman **BRETT MAHER**, Henery's back-up as the punter, holds.

Redshirted freshman **JON DAMKROGER**, a punter and place-kicker, and senior wide receiver **WES CAMMACK** also have practiced as holders, while redshirted freshman **SAM MEGINNIS** has worked as a long-snapper. The preparation began in the spring, with Mangieri joining in the summer.



All came to Nebraska as walk-ons. Cammack, like Henery, has earned a scholarship.

At the start with a new holder in particular, it was "pretty rough," said Henery. "I couldn't get a hold of a lot of it because the ball was either leaning too much or it was too up-right.

"I'm picky, and I don't like the ball a lot of ways. So just getting those guys to know how I like the ball and how I like it tilted, it makes a lot of difference."

Henery was asked how he wants the ball placed.

"Perfect," he said, "with a little lean and not too far back. I more like a straight-up ball because then I can see where I'm hitting on the ball. If they lean it too much, I've got to dig under it, and if they lean it forward, I've got to keep it

low. It seems like an easy, simple thing, but there's a lot to it."

Placed incorrectly, "it changes my hip motion," he said.

As for his philosophy of punting, "I'd rather hit a high punt that doesn't go as far as a line drive because then your team's getting down there," Henery said. "If you get it high enough, they'll be down there to stop them (returners), less than a 5-yard return, whereas if you hit a line drive, like a 60-yard punt, it might go that far, but they're going to return it 15, 20 yards."

In high school, "I was a big hang-time guy," said Henery, who earned all-state recognition as a punter. "That's what I would try to do more than crushing the ball."

Through the first three games, he was averaging 41 yards per punt. **N**



READING THE FIELD

BY JOE GANZ

Huskers face big test in Columbia

MISSOURI IS A TOUGH place to play. Those fans certainly aren't the friendliest or most caring fans in the world, so it's going to be tough, especially on a Thursday night. I think that ever since they started playing Thursday-night games, a majority of them have been won by the home team, so it's definitely difficult.

The good thing is that Nebraska will have a bye week before the game to prepare, but it's still a tough environment. Those fans are going to be pretty rowdy – they'll probably be pouring drinks on the guys as they walk out of their locker room and yelling things at them. It will also be tough because Missouri has a loud stadium and that cannon going off every time they score, which is pretty annoying.

The crowd noise is a factor on the road, especially with our offense because of all the checks and stuff that we have, but we're going to have a good game plan against Missouri. It's going to be a fun game and it's going to be fun to see Missouri quarterback Blaine Gabbert try to pick up Nebraska's defense, which is pretty complex, so I'm really looking forward to that.

Another thing I think will help the Huskers is they've already played at Virginia Tech, and Lane Stadium might be about the loudest stadium they'll play in all year. Missouri's Faurot Field won't be as loud as Lane Stadium, so the guys are going to know what to expect, how to react and how to play through it. I don't think the Missouri game will be as tough as it would have been if it was our first big road test.

Nebraska quarterback Zac Lee had a tough game in his first road start at

Virginia Tech. I thought he wasn't able to set his feet very well and step into a lot of throws because there was a lot of pressure put on him. That needs to improve a little bit and the offensive line needs to protect him for a second or half a second more, which will give him a lot more time to make his decisions.

Lee had some rough patches against Virginia Tech, but then he rebounded pretty well. I know the numbers weren't great and I know he didn't play as well as he wanted to or thought he could, but he's going to learn from it. Offensive coordinator Shawn Watson will guide him

along and, assuming he's healthy, I think it will go a little bit better at Missouri.

In order to be a good team, you have to enjoy playing on the road. It's fun to go out and take on the challenge of playing away from our fans. The best thing besides making a big play at home is making a big play on the road and hearing silence. That feels awesome. That's probably one of the coolest things you can ever experience.

To be successful in hostile environments, you kind of have to have that cocky attitude about going into someone else's place and really enjoy putting it to them. That's definitely the approach you need to take. **N**

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HUSKERS

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N



NELIGH, NE



If **BILL CALLAHAN** were still the coach, **TYLER LEGATE** would be playing football at South Dakota. No disrespect intended. "I'm not bashing Coach Callahan," said Legate. "That's not me."

But when Nebraska replaced Callahan with **BO PELINI**, and "they said they were going to emphasize walk-ons again, that's when I was like, 'Hey, I want to give it a shot,'" Legate said.

Even though he had a scholarship at South Dakota, his dream had always been to play for the Cornhuskers. He attended his first game at Memorial Stadium when he was only 6-years-old.

His cousin, **BILLY LEGATE**, was a walk-on fullback (1995-98) at the time.

Tyler would have walked on, too, except that Nebraska wasn't interested. So he headed to Vermillion, S.D., to play linebacker, sitting out the 2007 season as a redshirt.

With news of the Cornhuskers' coaching change, Legate quickly made up his mind to transfer. First, however, he had to tell South Dakota coach **ED MEIERKORT** of his intention.

"I was so nervous, my stomach . . . I didn't know how to do it," said Legate.

After consulting his dorm roommate and Coyote teammate, **ADAM BRODERS**, who is from Bloomfield, Neb., "I finally got enough guts to go talk to him (Meierkort)," Legate said.

Meierfort told him "if it didn't work out, I was always welcome back there," he said.

Legate transferred to Nebraska and enrolled for second-semester classes before contacting **JEFF JAMROG** about walking on. Jamrog knew Meierkort from when he had coached at Minnesota State, said Legate, and "I think Coach Meierkort gave me a good reference or something.

"I didn't even know if I was going to get on the team when I first got down here." **N**

NELIGH, NE

County: Antelope (county seat)
Population: 1,651
Distance from Lincoln: 115 miles

MR. TOUCHDOWN

Legate, the starting fullback, scored the first touchdown in Nebraska's 38-9 victory against Arkansas State, on a 3-yard pass from Zac Lee. His scoring was a big deal in Neligh, but "even getting out here and being on the team was pretty cool for them back home," he said.

AT THE DRIVE-IN

Neligh is home to one of only two drive-in theaters in Nebraska. The other is in Kearney. The Starlite, the town's Web site notes, has provided "over 50 years of drive-in movies in Neligh."



COURTESY CITY OF NELIGH

SIDELINES



GOLDEN RULE

Yes, the "golden rule" in the Bible begins: "Do unto to others . . ." But the term has a different meaning in Nebraska's offense. Cornhusker quarterbacks "have to really learn how to manage the game," offensive coordinator **SHAWN WATSON** said prior to the Florida Atlantic game.

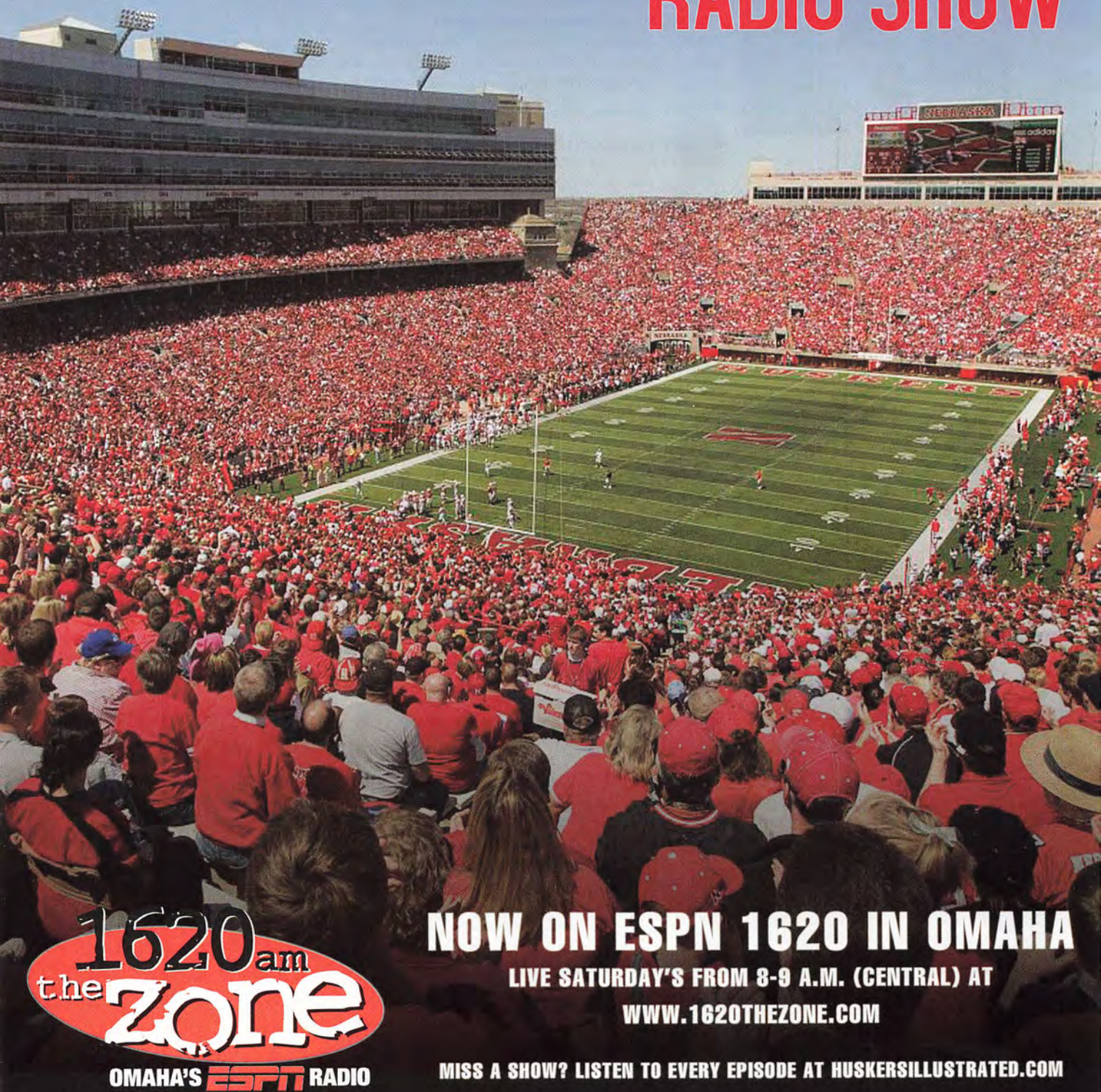
"Take what the defense gives is the golden rule No. 1, and simplify the game. You've got to really simplify the game in their minds. Part of that's the plan. The other part is, they can't go out and hunt for ghosts. They've just got to play what they see."

In the process of preparing **ZAC LEE** for his first start, "we've made it really simple for him so he can do that," said Watson, "so just go let him cut it loose and play now, show his arm talent and show what he's become."

HUSKERS

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Dreu Young

6-4, 250, Junior, Tight End, Cozad, Neb.

Hi: What do you have to do to be a regular starter at tight end?

YOUNG: We run a lot of two-tight end stuff, so Mike (McNeill) and I pretty much have the same roles. I'm more of a blocker than Mike, so I'm going to have my hands down on the dirt a little bit more when Mike is split out and stuff. I just need to keep working on blocking. That's the biggest thing coach (Ron) Brown wants is someone to block.

Hi: How does one become a better blocker?

YOUNG: It's technique and getting the repetitions. Most of us were wide receivers in high school, so not a lot of us have a lot of run-blocking experience. Other than Ben (Cotton), I don't know if many of us were tight ends in high school. We all caught the ball from standing up and had to block corners.

Hi: Would you go back to wide receiver if you could?

YOUNG: No, I kind of like tight end. At first I didn't like it, but it grows on you as you do it more and more. I like the blocking. I like being in there and pass blocking and trying to be tough like the linemen. It makes you feel good about yourself sometimes.

Hi: What's the feel of the program compared to last year?

YOUNG: Everyone's really upbeat this year and optimistic. I think we're a lot tighter group this year than we were last year so it makes it a lot more fun. Even when it sucks, everyone sticks together and we get through it.

Hi: What was another change you could see?

YOUNG: The individual attitude that we had before is gone. It's definitely a team attitude now, and that's something coach (Bo) Pelini has really preached. When everything started going downhill, we had a little bit of mishap at the beginning of that season (in 2007). When things went south, players kind of panicked and then it become "play for yourself and get through the season."

Hi: What's your favorite part about being a Husker?

YOUNG: Just playing football and getting an opportunity every day. I've been blessed by God and the coaches and my parents to be down here and to get to go out every day and play.

Hi: Do you have any pre-game superstitions?

YOUNG: McNeill and I always come out and catch balls with each other and stay loose. We don't do anything too serious, just hang out. Then I take a shower before I get taped and go. I've always (taken a shower between warm-ups and the game). It's usually just me. I did that in high school and started when I got really hot before one game and took a cold shower. The guys who have been here don't ask me about it anymore, but people seeing me for the first time ask "What are you doing?" It just feels wrong not to do it.

Hi: What's the best piece of advice you've ever received?

YOUNG: You reap what you sow. That's something I've been told growing up and coach Brown is really drilling that into us. Everything you do, if you put in the time and the effort, you're going to get the result. If you have all the talent in the world and all the opportunity in the world and you just slack off, you're not going to get anything.

Hi: What's it like having Ron Brown as a coach?

YOUNG: He's a great guy. He's a little different just because he's got a little bit of the old-school mentality, which is cool. He's got great stories from way back when, so it's pretty sweet. He's a cool dude, down to earth, fun guy. He knows what he's doing, and he's helped us (tight ends) out a lot. He's a good guy to bring back, and he takes a lot of accountability for what happens. If we do bad, he puts a lot of pressure on himself. It's not his fault, but it's good when the coach takes that because then they push you harder and it helps you not to screw up.

Hi: What is your biggest talent outside of football?

YOUNG: Maybe my boyish good looks (laughs). I'd like to think I'm a good singer. I'm really not, but I sing all the time with McNeill.



Mike Tranmer

Applying walk-on lessons to life

WHEN A TIGHT economy forced the world's largest pharmaceutical company to downsize, Mike Tranmer no longer had his position in management.

But he did not panic. He did not ask "Why me?" He didn't even take time off, despite having more than a year's severance coming his way.

No, one of the longest shots ever to wear a Husker Blackshirt did what he does best. He rolled up his sleeves and decided that from now on, his job was to find a new job.

"I had to use some of my life lessons learned from being a walk-on," Tranmer said. "When you're a walk-on, you have to wake up every day with self-confidence. You know that part of the process is never to feel sorry for yourself, always show perseverance and make sure that you believe in yourself, even when no one else has faith in you."

Tranmer, 48, worked doggedly looking for a new position. "I went through business contacts and developed every relationship I could think of," he said. "It wasn't easy, but I survived 20 years at a high level in the business world, and I knew I would find another good fit – just like I knew I would play at Nebraska when everyone else had written me off."

Never underestimate the

psychological mindset of a Nebraska football walk-on, especially one who grew up on a hog farm near Lyons, Neb., and refused to let anyone stand in the way of his rags-to-riches story a quarter-century ago when he would rise from the ranks of almost total anonymity to team captain.

Mike Tranmer started at middle guard on a team that won 12 straight games in 1983. Its only loss was 31-30 to Miami in the national championship Orange Bowl game.

Twenty-six years later, Tranmer still holds his place in Nebraska football history. He is the Huskers' only modern-day captain who never received an athletic scholarship.

It's a unique source of pride that kept



MIKE TRANMER

LETTERS: 1982-83

WIFE: Lisa

CHILDREN: Mitch, 23; Jake, 22; Jordan, 14

POSITION: Middle guard

CURRENT: Vice president-operations, American Title Inc., Omaha

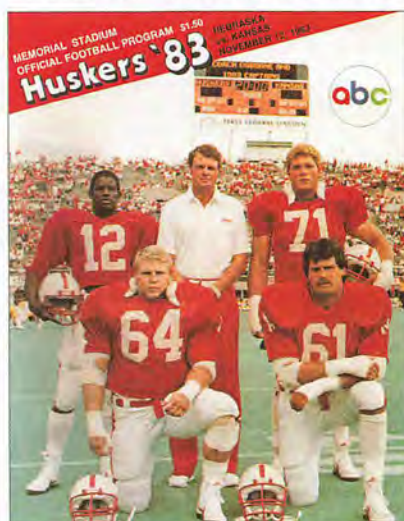
VOLUNTEER WORK: President, Nebraska Walk-On Booster Club

RESIDENCE: Wahoo, Neb.

pushing Tranmer to fill the void left by 20 years of dedicated service to his previous employer.

The good news is Tranmer found the right fit and is now vice president of operations for a title company in Omaha. He's gone from a large corporation to a small, family-owned company and finds excitement in learning a new industry, meeting new people and taking on new challenges.

The beauty of his transition is having an even greater appreciation for the journey he made as a Husker. "Coach Osborne always said that football was not about winning and losing," Tranmer said. "It was about being the best you can be and learning about life. Was he ever right! Even now, I think to myself: 'Wow, what a lesson we all learned.'" **N**





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STATE OF THE HUSKERS

BY CURT MCKEEVER

5 ways to judge if NU is ready for Big 12

NEBRASKA'S non-conference schedule proved to be extremely valuable in that, unless the Huskers were expecting to go undefeated, even that biting loss at Virginia Tech didn't rob them of any of their goals heading into Big 12 play.

Before this 2009 marathon began, Bo Pelini's club was deemed by a small group of media that cover the league to be a slight favorite over Kansas to win the North Division. Missouri has proven it belongs in that group – and you all know NU has to go on the road to face both of those squads.

Are the Huskers ready to handle the expectations? Let's go over some issues they still need to settle as they head to Missouri trying to get a leg up on the Tigers at the start of a race many figure will be decided in less than two months from now by a lean at the tape.

THE MENTAL TOUGHNESS METER:

Despite being lauded for their work ethic, the Huskers still have to answer questions about how soundly they can play.

After three games, NU was averaging seven penalties for 62 yards. Eight of the nine flags the Huskers drew at Virginia Tech came in the second half, and during one critical drive in the third quarter they committed four violations that not only cost them a knockout-punch touchdown but also took them from a first-and-goal situation out of field-goal range.

Nebraska's defense also had a mental bust during the Hokies' game-

winning, 88-yard drive. Before that final possession, Tech had been limited to 195 yards and hadn't crossed midfield in the second half.

THE LEADERSHIP:

While last year's team provided an inspiring lesson on how to stick together and stay motivated through some trying results, the fact remains each club is unique that way. And you can be sure of this: The Big 12 schedule will provide certain adversity.

"We need to make this a fuel to make us a better football team, rather than a distraction that makes us divided," Pelini said following the game at Virginia Tech. "I love those challenges, and our football team loves those challenges. We're going to rise up."

RED-ZONE OFFENSE EFFECTIVENESS:

You can crunch all the numbers you want, but it's hard to argue there's a more-meaningful statistic in relation to the outcome of a game than this.

Through three games, Nebraska had scored on 12 of the 13 possessions it took inside the opponent's 20-yard line. But on five of those occasions, the Huskers had to settle for a field goal.

Against Virginia Tech, NU was four-for-five in the red zone, with all four being field goals. To be fair, the Hokies forced Alabama to kick field goals in four red-zone situations. But Husker I-back Roy Helu, who bulled his way for 169 yards against the toughest run defense outside of Oklahoma the Huskers are likely to see this season,

went backwards in the red zone (getting minus-four on three attempts).

THE TAKEAWAY GAME:

Nebraska's offense committed just three turnovers in its first three games, with one being a last-play desperation heave by Zac Lee against Tech, and another coming on a deep throw in that contest.

While the defense controlled the Hokies until their last drive, it also came up with no takeaways, leaving that unit with four on the season and making some wonder about the ability to consistently create the sudden-change-of-momentum plays that often turn a game.

Lee's ability to perform in the clutch:

The junior quarterback was silky smooth against the Sun Belt Conference All-Stars, in the comforts of Memorial Stadium, and he seemed sure-headed at Virginia Tech. But his passing touch also left him during an 11-for-30 performance. At one point in the second and third quarters, Lee missed on 10 straight attempts.

HANDLING THE GIANTS:

The Huskers have made remarkable progress in a short span under Pelini. One could easily argue they're ahead of schedule. At the same time, the loss to Virginia Tech made NU an astonishing 0-17 against its last 17 top-20 opponents.

Does this team have it in it to smash that broken record? Nebraska could possibly face four more such match-ups in Big 12 play - against Missouri, Texas Tech, Oklahoma and Kansas. **N**

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Asante delivers

Already leading 27-0, Nebraska's defense delivered the knockout blow in a 55-0 victory over Louisiana-Lafayette. Safety Larry Asante's 74-yard interception

return for a touchdown put Nebraska ahead 34-0 with 6:16 left in the first half — all but taking the fight out of the Ragin' Cajuns. Asante broke quickly on UL-Lafayette quarterback Chris Masson's pass and sprinted to the end zone for the score, marking the first interception return for a TD by a Husker defensive back since Fabian Washington in 2002 against Arizona State.

Nebraska secondary coach Marvin Sanders said it was no accident that Asante was in the right place at the right time.

"They had a tendency to run certain routes versus certain defenses and I've said all along, Larry is one of the most intelligent players that I've had the good fortune to coach," Sanders said. "He knew exactly what play to expect and he read it. That comes from film study and my hat's off to him because he did it."

Asante suffered a lower-leg injury on the play and didn't return to the game.

"He hurt it when he made the break in front of the guy to make the interception," Sanders said. "Adrenaline kind of brought him home there."

The three takeaways matched the season-high for Nebraska, which also had three against Florida Atlantic. Coach Bo Pelini said creating turnovers has been a point of emphasis for the Huskers, especially after failing to produce a

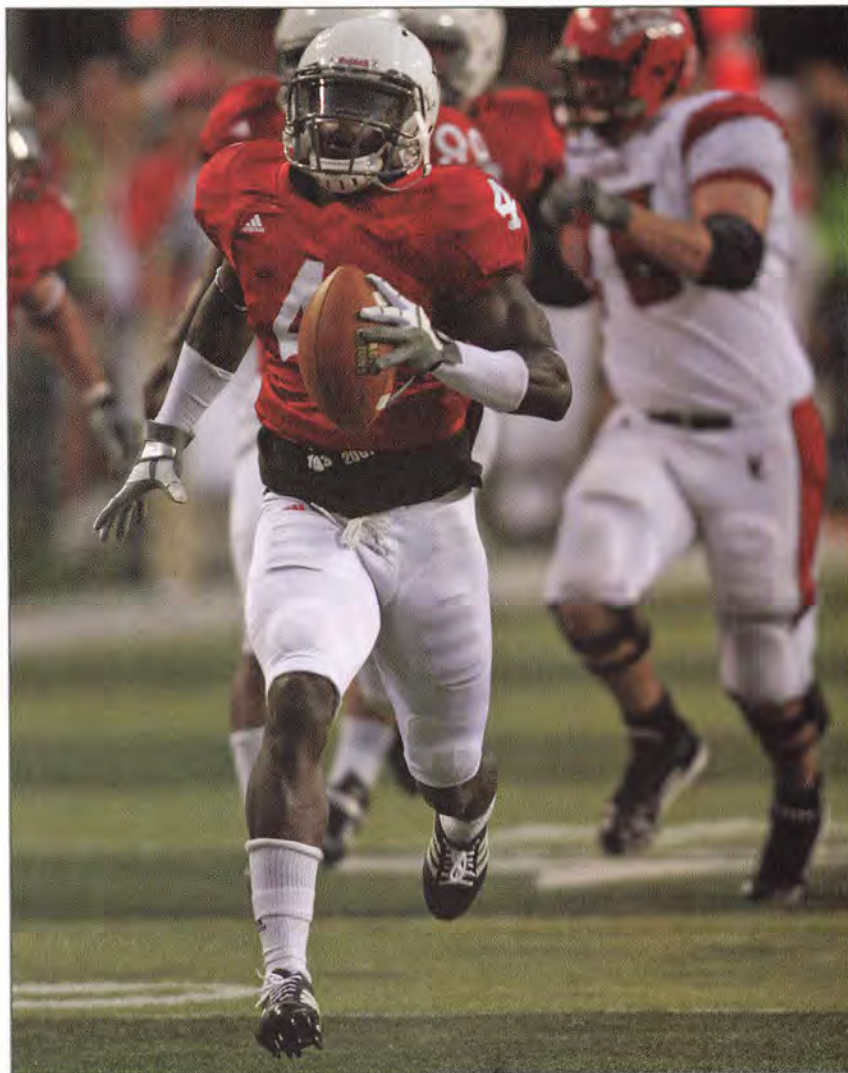


PHOTO BY AARON BABCOCK

Senior safety Larry Asante returned an interception 74 yards for a touchdown in the second quarter, marking his second career interception. It was Nebraska's first interception for a touchdown by a Nebraska defensive back since 2002.

takeaway in a 16-15 loss at Virginia Tech.

"We said last week that zero takeaways is unacceptable," Pelini said. "It's a matter of awareness (and) it's a matter of attitude. It's a matter of attacking the football and we did that more often."

Nebraska's other two takeaways against UL-Lafayette came on fumble recoveries. Safety Matt O'Hanlon had one and linebacker Sean Fisher had the other,

nearly returning it for a TD himself before being tripped up by a teammate after a 21-yard return.

However, Fisher's disappointment was soothed by the shutout.

"I think it was big for us," Fisher said. "To come out here and get a shutout and hold them like we did was good for our confidence." **N**

— by Terry Douglass



PHOTO BY RANDY HAMPTON

ZAC'S BACK

The **ZAC LEE** from Nebraska's first two games of the season re-emerged in a 55-0 victory over Louisiana-Lafayette.

After struggling to an 11-of-30 passing day with two interceptions the previous week in a loss at Virginia Tech, Lee bounced back to complete 15-of-18 pass attempts for 238 yards and a touchdown against the Ragin' Cajuns. Playing with a break in his left (non-throwing) thumb, the junior left after leading the Huskers on a scoring drive in their first possession of the second half to go ahead 41-0.

"That was important for me, personally," Lee said of his performance. "After Virginia Tech, I made an effort to be sharp and get back on track and make sure I refocused myself."

Nebraska center **JACOB HICKMAN** said he was confident Lee would rebound after his rough outing against the Hokies.

GOING GREEN

With Nebraska leading Louisiana-Lafayette 41-0, backup quarterback **CODY GREEN** got extended work in relief of starter **ZAC LEE**. The true freshman entered the game with 6:51 remaining in the third quarter and, after being forced to punt in his first two possessions at the controls, guided the Huskers to a pair of TD drives.

"I wasn't expecting it, but I was hoping for it," Green said of getting significant playing time. "Zac and I talk and I always tell him every game, 'Hey, go ahead and get up by 40 so I can hurry up and get into the game.'"

Green finished 7-of-8 passing for 62 yards, including a 24-yard TD pass to I-back **REX BURKHEAD** on a shovel pass. Green also capped the scoring with a 24-yard scoring run with 8:46 to play.

'INFURIATING' FEELING

One week after suffering a heart-breaking 16-15 loss at Virginia Tech, that loss could probably be viewed in a slightly better light considering the Hokies handed a No. 9-ranked Miami (Fla.) squad a 31-7 beating at Lane Stadium in Blacksburg, Va.

However, learning that Virginia Tech had throttled the Hurricanes produced mixed emotions for Nebraska center **JACOB HICKMAN**.

"It was infuriating," Hickman said. "Basically, we know that we would rank very high if we would've just closed out the (dang) game."

"I mean, it was good because it just kind of shows you where we're at because we really felt like we were the better team in that (Virginia Tech) game, but it's frustrating all at the same time."



PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN

BIG FOR BROOKS? Despite recording career highs with three receptions for 50 yards, including a 4-yard TD catch against UL-Lafayette, Nebraska senior wide receiver **CHRIS BROOKS** downplayed his best performance as a Husker.

"That is what I'm supposed to do," said Brooks, whose other TD catch at Nebraska came against Kansas in 2008. "You can't make too much of it. That's why I'm on scholarship and what they brought me here to do."

Brooks was one of 13 Huskers to record a reception in the game.

OH, HENERY!

Following his five field-goal performance at Virginia Tech, **ALEX HENERY**'s star continued to rise with a solid double-duty effort against UL-Lafayette.

Nebraska's junior place-kicker not only connected on both of his field goal attempts, converting from 39 and 46 yards. Henery has now made 21 consecutive field-goals attempts from inside 50 yards and is 33 of 34 in his career from inside 50 yards.

Henery also had a stellar punting performance.

A first-year starting punter, Henery averaged 45.7 yards on three punts, including a long of 55, and killed two punts inside the Ragin' Cajuns' 20-yard line. To be more exact, Henery pinned UL-Lafayette at its own 2 on a punt with 1:22 left in the first half and then executed a coffin-corner kick that was downed by a teammate at the 1 with 14:18 left in the game.

PAINFUL SACK

Nebraska recorded the first two sacks allowed by UL-Lafayette this season as backup defensive end **CAMERON MEREDITH** broke the ice early in the second quarter with a sack of starting quarterback Chris Masson.

In the fourth quarter, Huskers' weakside linebacker **PHILLIP DILLARD** sacked backup Brad McGuire, earning him a healthy whack on the backside from NU linebackers coach **MIKE EKELER**.

"I'm going to be one of the guys in the training room because of that play," Dillard said. "It wasn't because of the sack, it was because (Coach Ekeler) hit me — and he was firing."

"Every time you make a good play, you're kind of scared to make a good play because he knocks you out."

QUICKLY



WORTH NOTING

► Senior defensive tackle **NDAMUKONG SUH** had six tackles against the Ragin' Cajuns, pushing his career tackle total to 156 and moving him into the top 50 on Nebraska's all-time charts. Suh is just the 10th interior defensive lineman among NU's top 50 career tacklers.

► One week after failing to score a TD in five red-zone opportunities against Virginia Tech, Nebraska was 4-of-4 in the red zone against UL-Lafayette, scoring four TDs.

► The crowd of 86,304 was a Memorial Stadium record crowd, bettering the 85,831 fans who saw the Nebraska-Virginia Tech game on Sept. 27, 2008.

GAME CAPTAINS

Nebraska captains for the UL-Lafayette game were sophomore offensive tackle **MARCEL JONES**, senior receiver **CHRIS BROOKS**, sophomore defensive tackle **JARED CRICK** and redshirt freshman defensive back **P.J. SMITH**.

GamePhotos



PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN



PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN



PHOTO BY BRETT HAMPTON



PHOTO BY BRETT HAMPTON

TOP: Members of the Bob Devaney's family are honored at half time, while Bob looks down from the video board. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Husker fans were treated to a fireworks display following the game. **MIDDLE RIGHT:** The playing field was decorated with a special 300th consecutive sellout logo. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Husker students raise a shoe in support of a Alex Henery punt.

SNAP SHOT



PHOTO BY BRETT HAMPTON



PHOTOS BY RANDY HAMPTON



TOP: Nebraska fans jammed Memorial Stadium for a stadium record attendance of 86,304. **MIDDLE LEFT:** Former Husker Heisman Trophy winner Johnny Rodgers was one of many former Huskers in attendance. **MIDDLE RIGHT:** Dan Whitney, or Larry the Cable Guy, attended Saturday's game. **BOTTOM:** Nebraska sported throwback uniforms from the 1962 season.



LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE 0
NEBRASKA 55



GamePhotos



PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN

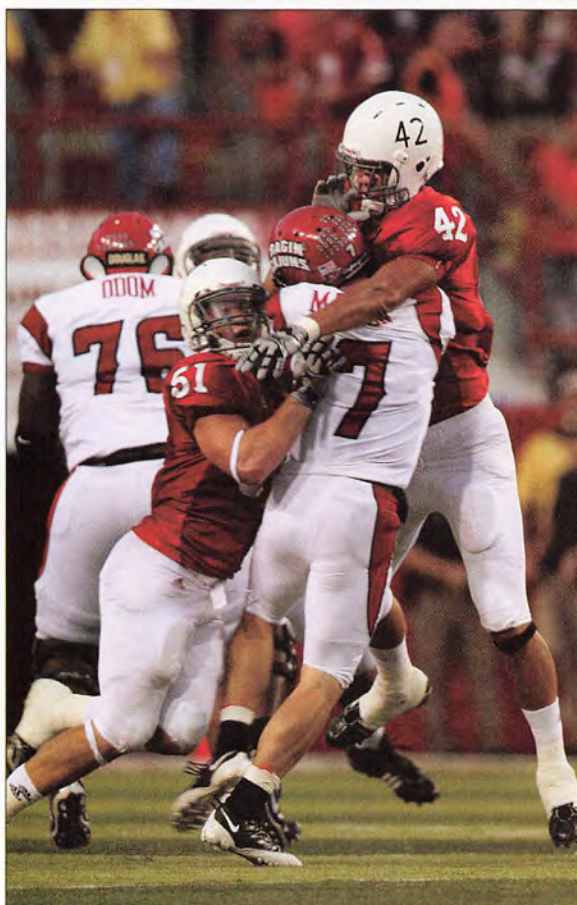


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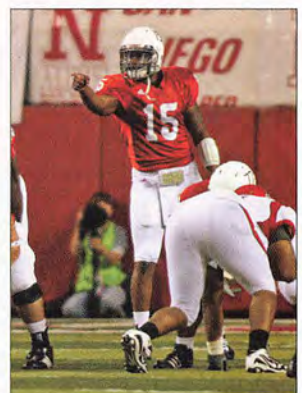
PHOTO BY BRETT HAMPTON

TOP: Freshman Rex Burkhead scores on a 24-yard reception from Cody Green in the fourth quarter. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Will Compton (left) and Sean Fisher sandwich quarterback Chris Masson. **MIDDLE RIGHT:** Eric Hagg and the Husker defense force a first half fumble. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Freshman Baker Steinkuhler tackles fullback Yobes Walker.

SNAP SHOT



PHOTOS BY AARON BABCOCK



TOP: Cameron Meredith and Colton Koehler upend backup QB Blaine Gautier. **MIDDLE LEFT:** Dreu Young delivers a stiff arm as he fishes a 34-yard completion from Zac Lee. **MIDDLE RIGHT:** Khiry Cooper hauls in a second-half catch. **BOTTOM:** Sean Fisher returns a fumble for 21 yards in the third quarter.

FANS OF THE GAME



PHOTO BY BRETT HAMPTON



PHOTO BY SCOTT BRUHN



PHOTO BY RANDY HAMPTON

Clockwise - 1) UNL students Nathon Higlankamp, senior from Arlington, Leighton Wier, junior from Ord, and Justin Yoesel, junior from Falls City celebrate the 300th consecutive sell out with painted overalls. 2) Craig McGee of Elkhorn dressed in his own throw-back uniform. 3) Ben Schultz of Omaha sports his retro Husker hat. 4) Three Husker fans teamed up to paint the ultimate 300.



PHOTO BY RANDY HAMPTON

REPORT CARD

RUSHING:

The Huskers averaged a shade under 4 yards per carry and fumbled twice, though neither fumble was lost. The yards-per-carry average was a result of a 25-yard loss charged to the team.

B

PASSING:

ZAC LEE and **CODY GREEN** couldn't have been much more efficient, with only four incomplete passes, 300 yards and two touchdowns, without an interception. Lee recovered nicely after a difficult day at Virginia Tech. Thirteen players caught passes, led by **REX BURKHEAD** and **CHRIS BROOKS**.

A-

RUSHING DEFENSE:

The Rajin' Cajuns tried to run, without success, averaging less than 3 yards per carry. The closest they could come was the Nebraska 13-yard line, where they lost a fumble – one of two lost.

A

PASSING DEFENSE:

Though Louisiana-Lafayette completed over half its passes, the Huskers had two sacks and an interception, which was returned for a touchdown. **NDAMUKONG SUH** was credited with another pass break-up, giving him six for the season – that ties the school single-season record for his position.

A-

KICKING/SPECIAL TEAMS:

ALEX HENERY was two-for-two on field goal attempts. So what else is new? He also averaged 45.7 yards on three punts, the first two of which left Louisiana-Lafayette at its own 1-yard line. The first went out of bounds, the second was downed by Tim Marlowe. "I thought we did a lot of good things on special teams," coach Bo Pelini said. "You saw a lot of energy."

A+

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

NEBRASKA STARS

► Omaha Burke senior wide receiver Lavant Moore had 11 catches for 188 yards in a 28-10 loss to Bellevue West. Moore now has 31 receptions for 579 yards and eight touchdowns on the season.

► Millard North junior quarterback Kyle Erickson had 24 carries for 294 yards rushing and four touchdowns in a 42-14 victory over Papillion-La Vista South.

► Omaha Creighton Prep senior running back Nick Mizaur had 13 carries for 187 yards and five touchdowns in a 46-0 win over Omaha Northwest.

► In a 41-40 overtime loss to Gretna, Beatrice junior running back Daniel Davie had a 93 yard reception for a touchdown. Davie is one of the more explosive playmakers in the state.

THE PAUL FELL PREDICTION

NEBRASKA vs. MISSOURI



OCTOBER 8, 2009

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QUICK PICKS



Aaron Babcock
(21-9/5-3)



Mike Babcock
(21-9/6-2)



Sean Callahan
(20-10/6-2)



John Talman
(20-9/6-2)



Matt Davison
(21-9/7-1)

(Season/Last Week)	Aaron Babcock (21-9/5-3)	Mike Babcock (21-9/6-2)	Sean Callahan (20-10/6-2)	John Talman (20-9/6-2)	Matt Davison (21-9/7-1)
Nebraska at Missouri	MU 24-21	NU 35-31	NU 41-30	NU 35-24	NU 38-34
Colorado at West Virginia	WV 28-20	WVU 28-17	WV 37-23	WV 38-21	WV 34-18
Kansas State vs. Iowa State (in Kansas City)	KSU 14-13	ISU 17-13	ISU 27-23	ISU 24-21	ISU 28-6
Oklahoma at Miami	OU 31-21	OU 38-15	OU 28-24	OU 31-27	OU 31-27
Arkansas vs. Texas A&M (in Dallas)	UA 34-10	UA 42-24	UA 45-31	UA 24-22	A&M 24-17
New Mexico at Texas Tech	TT 49-21	TT 49-10	TT 51-27	TT 49-21	TT 37-24
LSU at Georgia	LSU 28-27	UGA 28-24	UGA 31-27	LSU 30-27	UGA 29-24
USC at California	USC 28-24	USC 35-24	USC 23-21	USC 41-21	USC 41-21

GameStats

SUMMARY

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

SCORING

Sept. 26, 2009
Memorial Stadium • Lincoln, Neb.
Attendance: 86,304

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Tot
La-Lafayette	0	0	0	0	0
Nebraska	13	21	7	14	55

First Quarter

NU	Henery 39-yard Field Goal	0	3
	07:06 Drive: 11 plays 71 yds 4:55		

NU	Cotton TD FUMB (Henery Kick) 05:03	0	10
	Drive: 3 plays 43 yds 0:45		

NU	Henery 46-yard Field Goal	0	13
	00:08		
	Drive: 6 plays 38 yds 2:16		

Second Quarter

NU	Brooks Pass from Lee 4-yards (Henery Kick) 12:00	0	20
	Drive: 4 plays 27 yds 1:59		

NU	Helu Jr. 2-yard Run (Henery Kick) 11:11	0	27
	Drive: 3 plays 26 yds 0:42		

NU	Asante TD INT (Henery Kick) 06:16	0	34
----	--------------------------------------	---	----

Third Quarter

NU	Helu Jr. 2-yard Run (Henery Kick) 08:36	0	41
	Drive: 10 plays 73 yds 6:18		

Fourth Quarter

NU	Burkhead Pass from Green 24-yards (Henery Kick) 11:04	0	48
	Drive: 5 plays 41 yds 1:51		

NU	Green 24-yard Run (Henery Kick) 08:46	0	55
	Drive: 2 plays 41 yds 0:36		

TEAM STATS

Total First Downs	14	21
Rushing	8	7
Passing	5	13
Penalty	1	1
Rushing Attempts	37	34
Yards Gained Rushing	120	169
Yards Lost Rushing	18	36
Net Yards Rushing	102	133
Net Yards Passing	120	300
Passes Attempted	27	26
Passes Completed	15	22
Had Intercepted	1	0
Percent Completion	55.6%	84.6%
Yards per Attempt	4.4	11.5
Yards per Completion	8.0	13.6
Total Offensive Plays	64	60
Total Net Yards	222	433
Avg. Gain Per Play	3.5	7.2
Fumbles: No-Lost	4-2	2-0
Penalties: No-Yards	3-14	6-54
Punts: No-Yards	8-345	3-137
Avg. Per Punt	43.1	45.7
Avg. Net Punt	34.8	45.7
Punt Returns: No-Yards	1-0	4-67
Kickoff Returns: No-Yards	4-67	1-21
Interception Returns: No-Yards	0-0	1-74
Fumble Returns: No-Yards	0-0	1-21
Miscellaneous Yards	0	0
Possession Time	30:03	29:57
Third-Down Conversions	5-16	6-11
Percentage	31.2%	54.5%
Fourth-Down Conversions	1-1	0-0
Percentage	100.0%	0.0%
Sacks By: No-Yards	1-6	2-14

NEBRASKA

Rushing	No	Gain	Lost	Net	Avg	TD	Lg
Helu Jr.	15	85	2	83	5.5	2	39
Burkhead	6	27	0	27	4.5	0	12
Green	3	25	3	22	7.3	1	24
Washington	2	10	0	10	5.0	0	6
Jones	2	9	0	9	4.5	0	8
Okafor	1	9	0	9	9.0	0	9
Cotton	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	0
Lee	3	4	6	-2	-0.7	0	2
TEAM	2	0	25	-25	-12.5	0	0
Total	34	169	36	133	3.9	4	39

Passing	Att	Comp	%	Int	Yds	TD	Lg
Lee	18	15	83.3	0	238	1	43
Green	8	7	87.5	0	62	1	24
Total	26	22	84.6	0	300	2	43

Receiving	No	Yds	TD	Lg
Gilleylen	2	85	0	43
Brooks	3	50	1	24
Young	1	34	0	34
Burkhead	4	26	1	24
Cooper	2	26	0	17
McNeill	2	26	0	13
Reed	1	16	0	16
Helu Jr.	2	11	0	9
Legate	1	11	0	11
Paul	1	9	0	9
Bell	1	3	0	3
Cammack	1	2	0	2
Henry	1	1	0	1
Total	22	300	2	43

Punt Ret	No	Yds	TD	Lg
Burkhead	2	59	0	33
Paul	2	8	0	9
Total	4	67	0	33

Kick Ret	No	Yds	TD	Lg
Paul	1	21	0	21

Punting	No	Avg	Lg	Blk	TB	FC	50+	In 20
Henery	3	45.7	55	0	0	0	1	2

Field Goals	Made	Att	Lg	Blkd
Henery	2	2	46	0

Defense	Tac	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sac	PD	FF	FR
Fisher	1	5	6	0-0	0-0	0	0	1
Hagg	2	4	6	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Suh	1	5	6	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
Compton	3	2	5	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Meredith	4	1	5	2-10	1-9	1	0	0
Allen	1	3	4	0-5	1-0	0	0	0
O'Hanlon	1	3	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	1
Steinkuler	1	3	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Turner	3	1	4	1-1	0-0	0	0	0
Dillard	3	0	3	1-5	1-5	0	0	0
Koehler	2	1	3	1-1	0-0	0	0	0
Amukamara	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Asante	2	0	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Cassidy	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
Gomes	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Moore	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Thorell	0	2	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
West	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Crick	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Dean	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Harvey	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Klingelhoefer	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0

LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE

Rushing	No	Gain	Lost	Net	Avg	TD	Lg
Sails	10	42	1	41	4.1	0	10
Walker	12	38	1	37	3.1	0	9
Gautier	6	14	1	13	2.2	0	9
McGuire	5	19	6	13	2.6	0	12
Booker	1	4	0	4	4.0	0	4
Shankle	1	1	0	1	1.0	0	1
Masson	2	2	9	-7	-3.5	0	2
Total	37	120	18	102	2.8	0	12

Passing	Att	Comp	%	Int	Yds	TD	Lg
Masson	22	13	59.1	1	102	0	32
McGuire	5	2	40.0	0	18	0	10
Total	27	15	55.6	1	120	0	32

Receiving	No	Yds	TD	Lg
Green	5	68	0	32
Aubrey	4	27	0	10
Lee	1	9	0	9
Booker	1	8	0	8
Joseph	1	4	0	4
Wolfe	1	3	0	3
Sails	1	1	0	1
Miller	1	0	0	0
Total	15	120	0	32

Punt Ret	No	Yds	TD	Lg
Lee	1	0	0	0

Kick Ret	No	Yds	TD	Lg
Auriene	2	34	0	18
Miller	1	20	0	20
Shankle	1	13	0	13
Total	4	67	0	20

Punting	No	Avg	Lg	Blk	TB	FC	50+	In 20
Ortego	8	43.1	53	0	1	0	3	1

Field Goals	Made	Att	Lg	Blkd
Albrecht	0	0	0	0

Defense	Tac	Ast	Tot	TFL	Sac	PD	FF	FR
McCoy	4	5	9	1.5-6	0.5-3	0	0	0
Auriene	5	2	7	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Fleming	4	2	6	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
Zanders	5	1	6	1-1	0-0	0	0	0
Davis	1	3	4	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Washington	4	0	4	1-4	0-0	0	0	0
Nevels	2	1	3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Richardson	2	1	3	1-3	0-0	0	0	0
Bentley	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Lewis-Buchanan	0	2	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Mack	0	2	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Onyenekwu	2	0	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Rogers	1	1	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Topp	0	2	2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Aubrey	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Benoit	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Broadnax	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Dean	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Gaddies	0	1	1	0.5-3	0.5-3	0	0	0
Hayes	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Jackson	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Jean	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Jones	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
McCullough	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Moore	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Walker	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Williams	0	1	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Wolfe	1	0	1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0

Sat., Sept. 5	Florida Atlantic	Memorial Stadium	W, 49-3
Sat., Sept. 12	Arkansas State	Memorial Stadium	W, 38-9
Sat., Sept. 19	Virginia Tech	Blacksburg, Va.	L, 15-16
Sat., Sept. 26	La-Lafayette	Memorial Stadium	W, 55-0
Thur., Oct. 8	Missouri	Columbia, Mo.	8 p.m.
Sat., Oct. 17	Texas Tech	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Sat., Oct. 24	Iowa State	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Sat., Oct. 31	Baylor	Waco, Texas	TBA
Sat., Nov. 7	Oklahoma	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Sat., Nov. 14	Kansas	Lawrence, Kan.	TBA
Sat., Nov. 21	Kansas State	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Fri., Nov. 27	Colorado	Boulder, Colo.	2:30 p.m.
Sat., Dec. 5	Big 12 Championship	Arlington, Texas	7 p.m. (ABC)

Washington always looking one move ahead

BY STEVEN M. SIPPLE

MISSOURI JUNIOR Derrick Washington is a unique running back, Tigers head coach Gary Pinkel says.

Ask Pinkel to compare Washington's running style to other running backs, and the coach draws a blank.

One trait stands out.

"He's never here with his eyes," Pinkel told The Kansas City Star, directing his gaze right in front of himself. "He's always out there."

The 5-foot-11, 225-pound Washington, of Raymore, Mo., says his ability to survey the field comes naturally.

"That's not even something I know I'm doing," he says. "But when the defenders are coming, I'm not looking at that. I'm looking at the next one while trying to make these guys miss."

Washington evidently does a great job of making defenders miss. Last season, he rushed 177 times for 1,036 yards (5.85 per carry), including 14 attempts for 139 yards (9.9) and two touchdowns in Missouri's 52-17 thumping of Nebraska in Lincoln.

However, Washington received a total of only 15 carries combined in the Tigers' next two games -- losses to Oklahoma State and Texas.

"I remember last year in the Okie State game, we kind of abandoned the running game," Missouri linebacker Sean Weatherspoon recently told the Columbia (Mo.) Tribune. "He didn't get many carries, and he was upset about not getting opportunities."

Washington figures to get his share of chances throughout this season. Through

DERRICK WASHINGTON



three games -- not counting Missouri's Sept. 25 trip to Nevada -- he had rushed 52 times for 226 yards and two touchdowns. In a Sept. 12 win against Bowling Green, it became crystal clear he would be a more central part of the offense this season.

Trailing 20-6 late in the third quarter, Missouri faced third-and-10 from Bowling Green's 45-yard line. Washington took a handoff and dashed 18 yards up the left side of the field, setting up Blaine Gabbert's touchdown pass on the very next snap. The Tigers prevailed 27-20.

NOTES

► Pinkel, in his ninth season as Missouri head coach, had no changes on his full-time coaching staff through his first eight seasons. But that changed this past off-season when offensive coordinator Dave Christensen became head coach at Wyoming and defensive coordinator Matt Eberflus took a job as linebackers coach for the Cleveland Browns. Pinkel promoted

quarterbacks coach David Yost to offensive coordinator and linebackers coach Dave Steckel to defensive coordinator.

► Missouri's game against Nebraska begins a crucial four-game stretch for the Tigers in which they'll play, in order, at Oklahoma State, Texas in Columbia, and at Colorado

MISSOURI QUICK FACTS

Head coach: Gary Pinkel, 9th year, 62-41 at Missouri, 19th season in Division 1-A, 135-78-3
Enrollment: 30,200
Colors: Black and gold
2008 record: 10-3 (5-3 ACC)

2009 SCHEDULE

9/5 at Illinois, W, 37-9
 9/12 Bowling Green, W, 27-20
 9/19 Furman, W, 52-12
 9/25 at Nevada, 8 p.m.
 10/8 Nebraska, 8 p.m.
 10/17 at Oklahoma State
 10/24 Texas
 10/31 at Colorado
 11/7 Baylor
 11/14 at Kansas State
 11/21 Iowa State
 11/28 at Kansas

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BY BRIAN ROSENTHAL

WILL'S WAY

Somebody had told a joke, and Will Compton was laughing.

That describes the scene, as Compton remembers, on the Nebraska sideline during last season's home game against Virginia Tech.

What happened next had Compton searching for his helmet.

"Somebody said, 'Will! The coaches are yelling your name!' and I was like just looking around, freaking out," Compton said. "Coach (Mike) Ekeler's running down the sideline saying, 'Get ready to rock-n-roll! You're going in!'"

Going in? That certainly wasn't foremost on Compton's mind. He was a freshman who'd only been with the team a few weeks. He hadn't played in Nebraska's first three games, and Compton had pretty much figured he would redshirt.

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But Virginia Tech was moving the football, Nebraska was losing, and first-year coach Bo Pelini was growing impatient,

"He said, 'Get ready to go, big boy,'" Compton said, recalling what Pelini told him, "and then they had a whole series on offense, and then he pulled me back over, and he's like, 'We're not going to put you in there, that'd be a stupid decision.'"

That marked the first time Pelini nearly burned Compton's redshirt – but not the last. Compton also remembers being put on watch a few weeks later against Baylor, this time because

he resorted to memorizing his assignments, rather than seeing things unfold and instinctively knowing what to run and what's supposed to be happening around him.

"It's way different now," he said.

At least one person who saw Compton's debut against Florida Atlantic would agree.

"Honestly, I thought he was head and shoulders better than he was in the spring," said former Nebraska linebacker Barrett Ruud, who watched the Florida Atlantic game on television and witnessed some spring practices.

"He's going to be good. Some guys are just natural linebackers, and I think he kind of has that."

Former Nebraska Linebacker Barrett Ruud on Will Compton

starter Phillip Dillard had suffered an injury during the game.

Dillard's severely-sprained ankle actually sidelined him the rest of the regular season, but again, coaches thought twice about playing Compton. Instead, they prepped walk-on Colton Koehler and preserved Compton's redshirt season.

Compton is now thankful. The 6-foot-2, 225-pound native of Bonne Terre, Mo., is Nebraska's starting middle linebacker, and he points to last year's redshirt as one reason why.

"It's an awesome thing, getting a year of experience and being around the guys and just getting a feel of the game and studying," Compton said. "I had a whole year to just get involved with everything."

Compton said his overall knowledge and understanding of Nebraska's system last season is "nowhere close" to what he knows now. As an inexperienced player,

"He's going to be good. Some guys are just natural linebackers, and I think he kind of has that."

Ruud should know. He's Nebraska's all-time tackles leader, and he's in his fifth season playing linebacker for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. When he trained in the off-season in Lincoln, he helped Compton learn how to do a better job of watching and studying film.

"He teaches me how to watch the game and just gives me





his little tips and hints all the time,” Compton said. “He’s awesome. There’s no other way to put it. He’s somebody I definitely look up to.”

And even though Compton is uncomfortable with the thought of anybody comparing him to Ruud – “I don’t want that,” he said – Pelini gave a strong hint when he asked that Compton wear No. 51. That’s the number Ruud wears for Tampa Bay.

“When I committed, and then they called again and asked what number I wanted, I didn’t really know,” Compton said. “I was number 28 in high school because of offense and things like that, but I said I didn’t want that.

“Coach Bo was like, ‘Well, I want to give you 51,’ and I was like, ‘All right,’ and then he just told me why. Barrett’s one of his, I guess, better linebackers that he’s coached. I can totally see that. He’s a very focused individual. He’s just very humble and grounded. He’s just a great person.”

Compton said watching film with Ruud now helps him focus, and said it’s probably the

biggest jump he’s made as a player.

“Now, every day when you go in, all of us linebackers are up there making calls,” Compton said. “It’s fun to watch

film. You’re anticipating stuff and you’re always trying to figure out new little tweaks to do things.

“You’re going to win or lose the game or do good or do bad through your preparation through the week. You don’t have to be a physical specimen to be good at the game. As long as you’re very focused and prepared you’re going to do well.”

Compton, whose younger brother, Cody, is a member of the Nebraska wrestling team, committed to Nebraska under former coach Bill Callahan. When Callahan was fired, Compton admits he wasn’t sure he’d be a Husker. He kept his commitment, he said, because he gave his word. But not until a visit from coaches Carl Pelini, Marvin Sanders, John Papuchis and Ekeler did Compton solidify his decision.

“You don’t have to be a physical specimen to be good at the game. As long as you’re very focused and prepared you’re going to do well.”

Compton

That in-home visit has since been dubbed "The Tattoo Visit," because of a temporary tattoo Ekeler wore that included Compton's name as part of a Blackshirts' logo.

"That had nothing to do with my decision," Compton said of the tattoo, "but after spending that night with the coaches, I knew that's where I needed to go.

"When they walked out, I told my family and friends, 'This is the place where I need to go.' I don't know what else I was thinking."

Compton knows he's

nowhere near the player he can or will be. That's the message coaches give every player, and Compton especially understands, particularly after the redshirted season. Not that he was cocky or self-centered last season, he says, but Compton said he's better focused on the team's goals, and that he's more of a team player.

"You realize so much stuff and you grow up so much after being here a year ... football wise and as a man," Compton said. "You just grow up so much in that one year." **N**



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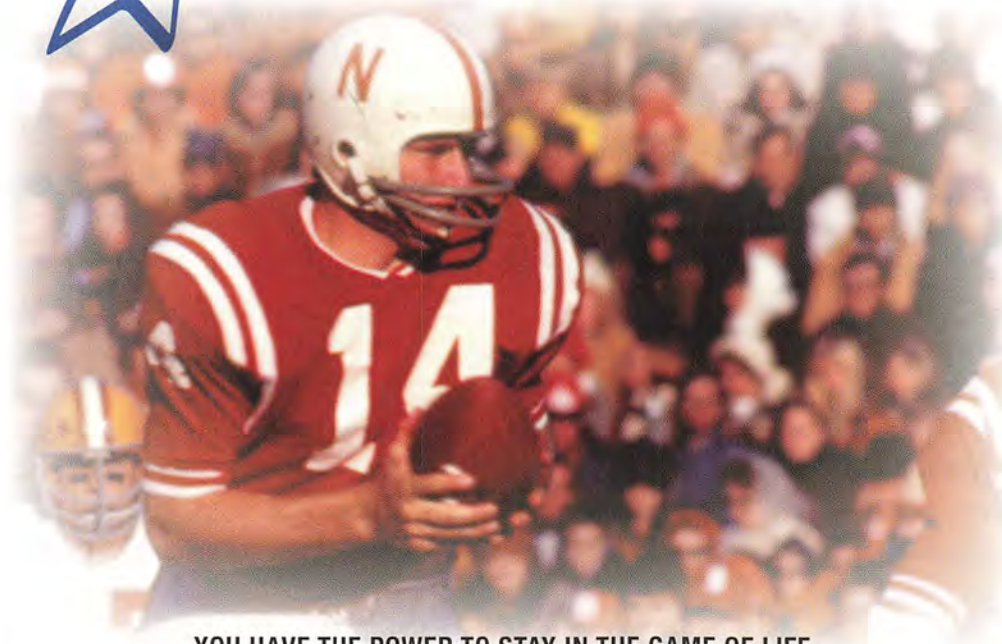
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NU seeking talent in trenches

BY RICK SHAW

The Huskers have gotten off to a great start in recruiting offensive line talent for their 2010 class, securing the pledges of two highly touted big men.

They already have big offensive tackle **ANDREW RODRIGUEZ** in the fold. Rated the No. 82 prospect in the country (4 stars) by Rivals.com, the 6-foot-6, 298-pounder out of Aurora, Neb., is considered the "crown jewel" of the Huskers' early recruiting haul. Another big lineman, **MIKE MOUDY** (6-7, 291) out of Castle Rock, Colo., Douglas County chose the Big Red last spring over offers from Kansas, Kansas State, Northwestern, Stanford and others.

The Big Red brass would like to add at least two more offensive line prospects to the pledge list between now and February, and there appears to be at least a handful of candidates interested in grabbing those spots.

COLIN TANIGAWA, a 6-3, 286-pound offensive guard out of Los Angeles Loyola High is scheduled to visit Nebraska on Sept. 25. He admits that the Huskers are among his early favorites.

"If I had to say, my top three would be Arizona State, Washington and Nebraska, in no particular order," Tanigawa said.

"I'm definitely interested in (Nebraska). My mom is from Omaha, and my grandmother still lives there. They're definitely at the top of my list now because of how great their program is. They take



DALVIN GLASS

care of their players. They have great facilities, and they beat Clemson in their bowl game."

Tanigawa, rated the nation's No. 33 prospect at offensive guard (3 stars) by Rivals, holds scholarship offers from Arizona State, Iowa State, Nebraska, San Jose State, Washington and Washington State.

Scottsdale, Ariz., Saguaro lineman **KODY INNES** (6-4, 280) is another offensive line prospect from out West giving the Huskers a hard look. With offers in hand from Arizona State, Cal, Colorado, Nebraska, Stanford, UCLA, Utah, Washington and others, he has a number of attractive college options to choose from. He expects, however, to use one of

his allotted visits to travel to Lincoln.

"I'm going to set up an official visit there pretty soon," Innes said. "I really like their fan support and tradition. My teammate, **COREY ADAMS**, took an official visit there last year, and he said it was amazing. They also have a great coaching staff, of course, and a great school, too."

Rated the nation's No. 50 offensive tackle prospect (3 stars) by Rivals, Innes boasts a 4.9-second 40-yard dash time to go along with a 350-pound bench press. Though the home state Arizona State will be hard to beat, the Huskers should at least get a shot to host him on campus.

Nebraska hopes to persuade 6-7, 315-pound tackle **ALEON CALHOUN** of Navasota, Texas, to visit Lincoln for a weekend as well. Though it will be tough to pluck him out of the southwest, the Huskers at least have him pondering the possibility of spending his college years on the Husker campus.

"Nebraska has been showing me a lot of interest and stuff," Calhoun said. "I need to visit them to see what it's like. I don't know too much about them yet. I've read about their championships that they've won from the letters they send me, but that's about it."

Texas A&M, Baylor and Oklahoma are also good bets to get visits from Calhoun. Rated the No. 72 offensive tackle prospect in the country by Rivals, Calhoun said he's focusing a lot of his attention this fall on shoring up his academic standing. Several

interested suitors, including the Huskers, will be paying close attention.

Another Lone Star State prospect, **DALVIN GLASS** of Dallas Carter, is also getting interest from the Nebraska staff. Rated among the state's top 100 prospect (3 stars) by Rivals, the 6-3, 315-pound big man admits that the Huskers rank high on his list.

"(Nebraska) has been one of my favorite teams since I was little," Glass said. "I like their tradition for offensive lineman, and for some reason, I just like the fact that they call them the Cornhuskers.

"They'd definitely be a school I'd choose to visit if I were to pick today."

A first-team all-district performer as a sophomore and junior, Glass has scholarship offers from Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas State, Minnesota, Nebraska and Tennessee.

One big prospect flying a bit under the radar in the state of Missouri, **JOE BURGESS** of Florissant McCluer North is also considering an offer from the Huskers.

Rated a two-star prospect from Rivals, the 6-6, 300-pounder, also holds an offer from Vanderbilt. He said he plans to visit both schools sometime this fall before solidifying a college decision.

For the Nebraska offense, success can be attributed to talent in the trenches. The Huskers are off to a great start in recruiting offensive lineman for the class of 2011. However, their work is far from complete. **N**



IN STATE SPOTLIGHT

BY SEAN CALLAHAN

Omaha Burke running back Stephon Washington is one of the most explosive football players in the state of Nebraska. The 5-foot-8, 175-pound Washington is one of the leading rushers in the state, and he also has captured the all-class gold medal in the 300-meter hurdles at the state track meet the last three years.

Huskers Illustrated caught up with Washington.

CALLAHAN: You came to Nebraska from St. Louis? How did you end up moving to the Omaha area?

WASHINGTON: We had to move to Omaha because the Union Pacific Railroad my grandmother works for is located in Omaha, so since her job had moved, that's what we had to do.

CALLAHAN: You've lived in both Nebraska and Missouri, what's the difference between Tiger and Husker fans?

WASHINGTON: Husker fans are more into football than Missouri fans because Missouri has a pro team in the St. Louis Rams. Since Nebraska doesn't really have a pro team, everybody really is into college football. I think the love for the Huskers up here is a lot stronger than the love for Mizzou (football).

CALLAHAN: Who's your favorite St. Louis sports team?

WASHINGTON: Probably the Cardinals. I just like how they work together as a team.

CALLAHAN: PS3 or Xbox?

WASHINGTON: I'm more of a PlayStation player. I've had a PlayStation my whole life.

CALLAHAN: What's your favorite game?

WASHINGTON: My favorite game is NCAA Football 2010. I play a lot against (Burke wide receiver) Lavant Moore. We always go heads up against each other. It depends on the day who wins that match-up. Sometimes I get him and sometimes he gets me. You never know what's going to happen.

CALLAHAN: Name three songs you can't live without on your iPod?

WASHINGTON: There's this song called "Star Studded Event" by this rap artist from Omaha Kuis Antone and mainly all of the Gucci Mane songs.

CALLAHAN: Hardest class you've ever taken in high school?

WASHINGTON: The hardest class I'm currently taking right now is pre-calculus. I'm doing pretty good though; I've got a B in the class and I'm close to an A.

CALLAHAN: If you could have dinner with any three people in the world, who would they be and why?

WASHINGTON: I'm more of a realistic person than a fantasizing person, so the odds of this happening are probably slim to none. But if I could do it, Adrian Peterson and LaDainian Tomlinson would be in there and I would probably have Mariah Carey in there, because we have plans to get married some day.

NEBRASKA'S SCHEDULE VISIT LIST

NAME	POS.	HT	WT	DATE	COMMIT
Jay Guy	DT	6-1	300	11/7	California
Austin Hill	WR	6-3	192	11/7	
Joshua Mitchell	DB	5-11	165	11/7	
Harold Mobley	ATH	6-4	225	11/7	
Tyler Slavin	WR	6-2	182	11/7	
Curtis Carter	ATH	5-10	161	10/17	
Ciante Evans	DB	5-11	170	9/25	Nebraska
Chase Harper	TE	6-6	248	9/26	
Chase Rome	DE	6-3	290	9/26	Oklahoma St.
Bud Sasser	WR	6-3	200	9/26	
Bobby Swigert	WR	6-1	175	9/26	
Colin Tanigawa	OL	6-3	286	9/26	
Damon Williams	DT	6-4	300	9/26	
Harvey Jackson	DB	6-2	185	9/5	Nebraska
Tejay Johnson	ATH	6-2	190	9/5	
Mike Moudy	OL	6-7	291	9/5	Nebraska
Donovan Vestal	DE	6-5	240	9/5	Nebraska

Recruiting Notebook

East St. Louis QB likes Huskers

by Sean Stevens

One of the most fertile recruiting grounds in the Midwest is the St. Louis area, and one of the top prospects in that area for 2010 is athlete **DETCHAUZ WRAY** (5-11, 165, 3 stars) of East St. Louis, Ill.

Wray plays quarterback for his high school team, but with his slight stature and exceptional speed, one might think Wray may be looking at a position change at the college level. He says that's not necessarily the case, though.

"All of the schools recruiting me are talking to me about playing quarterback," he said. "I've been clocked in the 40 in the 4.3's and 4.4's, so there are other positions I can play on the field. I haven't heard too much talk about that yet, though."

Wray has scholarship offers from New Mexico, Arizona, Nebraska, Colorado, Illinois and Kansas, and the Huskers have put themselves in his top group with the Wildcats and Buffaloes.

"Nebraska has some really cool coaches down there. I like coach (Shawn) Watson a lot. They like the fact that I'm mobile, have a nice arm and can read defenses well."

Wray threw for over 2,500 yards and 38 touchdowns as a junior.

It's been awhile since it held the national

significance of the 70's and 80's, but the Nebraska-Oklahoma game still carries some serious cachet. When the Sooners visit Lincoln Nov. 7, the Huskers will host a large group of official visitors, and that list is already taking shape.

Four prospects slated to visit are teammates from Corona, Calif., Eleanor Roosevelt – wide receivers **AUSTIN HILL** (6-3, 192, 3 stars) and **TYLER SLAVIN** (6-2, 182, 3 stars), athlete **HAROLD MOBLEY** (6-4, 225, 3 stars) and defensive back **JOSHUA MITCHELL** (5-11, 164, 2 stars).

Could the 'Roosevelt Four' be a package deal?

"In terms of what those other guys are thinking, to be honest I really don't know," Mitchell said. "We're all just focusing on the season right now. We haven't talked about favorite schools and stuff for a while."

Aside from his teammates, Hill has some other ties to the Husker program.

"My cousin **ANDREW GREEN** plays cornerback for them and another cousin, (2011 prospect) Aaron Green is being recruited by them too. They're both really good football players that I'd love to play with. It does make the (Nebraska) offer a little more interesting. Plus, my teammates are thinking about going there too."

Any way you slice it, that Oklahoma game weekend will be huge for the NU program. **N**

SIDELINES



150 percent 'N'

MIKE MOUDY out of Castle Rock, Colo., Douglas County delivered his commitment to the Nebraska coaching staff last April. During his official visit to Lincoln in early September, the 6-7, 291-pound prospect was reminded why.

"I was really impressed with the game atmosphere," Moudy said. "I thought the spring game was intense, but the opener (against FAU) was incredible, really intense."

"I got to spend a lot more time with the coaches, which was great. I spent a lot of meal time and went into meetings with coach (**BARNEY**) **COTTON**. I'm looking forward to working with him over the next four to five years. He's awesome. (The official visit) just strengthened my commitment. I'm 150 percent committed to Nebraska."

Moudy said he hopes to make it back to Lincoln a couple of more times this fall and assist the NU staff in turning other recruits on to the Husker program.

2010 Nebraska Commitment List (8)

Name (Rivals.com ranking)	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown (School)
Walker Ashburn ★★★	DE	6-3	245	River Ridge, La. (John Curtis)
Ciante Evans ★★★	CB	5-11	170	Arlington, Texas (Juan Seguin)
Tyler Evans ★★	ATH	6-2	180	Waverly, Neb. (Waverly)
Tyler Gabbert ★★★★★	QB	6-0	190	Ballwin, Mo. (Parkway West)
Harvey Jackson ★★★	DB	6-2	185	Missouri City, Texas (Hightower)
Mike Moudy ★★★	OL	6-7	291	Castle Rock, Colo. (Douglas County)
Andrew Rodriguez ★★★★★	OT	6-6	300	Aurora, Neb. (Aurora)
Donovan Vestal ★★★	DE	6-5	240	Arlington, Texas (Bowie)



DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS

BY JOHN TALMAN
RECRUITING PUBLISHER,
HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM

Winning with first-year recruiting classes

ONE OF THE MOST telling signs of success for the future of a new head coach is his first recruiting class.

Rarely are these first classes rated extremely high on signing day, and that's for a variety of reasons. Often times, the coaching staff comes in late in the recruiting cycle, which makes it challenging to find available prospects. Other times, the coaching change was usually centered on lack of wins. So there is some convincing to do in that first year that things will be different.

Regardless, I thought it was worth a look at what other successful head coaches got production-wise from their first signing classes. Plus, it's also worth making an early comparison with Nebraska head coach Bo Pelini's first group in 2008.

Let's stay in the Big 12 and take Oklahoma's Bob Stoops, for example.

You'll find some familiar names in that 1999 class, names that helped contribute to the Oklahoma national championship the next year, 2000, and beyond. Those included Brandon Everage, Quentin Griffin, Torrance Marshall, Derrick Strait and Jason White. Griffin shared time his senior year in high school while Strait, from Austin, Texas, Lanier High School, wasn't even offered by the Longhorns.

To say that class was undervalued but still had difference-makers is an understatement.

How about Pete Carroll and USC? His first recruiting class also had some names college football fans are familiar with. Linemen Shaun Cody and quarterback

Matt Leinart produced for the Trojans despite being part of a very small signing class in 2001.

Florida's Urban Meyer, like many of these coaches, was hired late in the process and had to finish a class through transition. That first class, in 2005, still ranked as the No. 15 group in the country according to Rivals.com. It included wide receivers Louis Murphy and David Nelson, both contributors to the 2006 and a 2008 national championship teams. Safety Reggie Nelson finally joined the Gators after failing to gain admittance in 2003 and was a big playmaker when he finally arrived. Let's not forget Ryan Stamper at linebacker or Kestahn Moore who contributed.

OK, so the first classes for these national-title-winning head coaches obviously provided several contributors to the football team either right away or on championship-winning teams shortly down the road.

Granted, it's early, but let's see what Pelini's first class is doing so far.

It's easy to check off contributors when you go down that signing-day press release.

Linebackers Will Compton and Sean Fisher are seeing starting time as redshirted freshmen. Cornerback Alfonzo Dennard saw playing time as a true freshman while junior college transfer Ricky Henry is now seeing starting time on the offensive line.

Cameron Meredith and Josh Williams are already showing sparks at defensive end while Kyler Reed showed just how undervalued he was as an athlete in the spring game this past year. P.J. Smith seems

to have emerged as a starter for the future at safety while lineman Baker Steinkuhler is in the two-deep at defensive tackle in his first year after a redshirt season.

We can't forget that Antonio Bell and Khiry Cooper are two receivers to look for in the future at Nebraska.

So what does this all mean?

The classes I mentioned above weren't top to bottom full of contributors. Like any signing class, we have to be realistic. Many prospects will not make it, get injured, or for some reason leave the program. Nebraska's 2008 group is similar in that way to Florida's 2005 group – not everyone is still on the roster.

It's also fair to point out that these first classes are usually about damage control. Head coaches usually are coming in late and have to scramble to add guys who aren't already committed to other programs. It's hard to be selective with the clock ticking and plenty of work to do.

Some similarities to Pelini's first class: Oklahoma and USC's first signing classes under their new head coaches didn't get the national attention that the programs are used to every February today.

Also, these first classes did provide the foundation for the future of the program under that new head coach.

It's a good sign for Nebraska fans if we're seeing early contributions from this 2008 class. That is, if we can agree that these other programs I've cited provide an accurate blueprint for success when it comes to recruiting. **N**

Volleyball

BROOKE DELANO

BY BOB HAMAR

Cook says sky is the limit for Delano

There is no limit for Nebraska middle blocker Brooke Delano. In fact, NU coach John Cook said she could be an All-American. Not next year or the year after, but this year.

"That's what I'm telling

her," Cook said.

Cook's confidence in his redshirted sophomore grew to new heights this spring when she filled in for the injured Lindsey Licht at right side hitter. It wasn't a completely new position for Delano. She had played all three front-row spots during her freshman season in 2008.

What was surprising to Cook was how well Delano played in the spring after having surgery, which cut her freshman season short, late last fall.

"Brooke was our best player this spring," Cook said. "She finally had surgery. She had an issue that really was slowing her down. Once she got that fixed, she came back as a different player. She had a great spring."

Delano was all set to stay at right side hitter this fall if Licht, who had both foot and elbow surgery this winter, wasn't ready to go. Licht made a quick recovery so Delano moved back to her original position at middle blocker.

Delano doesn't care. She just wants to be on the floor -- back row, front row, wherever the



Huskers need her.

Delano does have some experience in the back row. She made her first career start last year at Kansas State when both Tara Mueller and Kayla Banwarth were held out for disciplinary reasons, and she delivered with seven kills, four blocks and 16 digs.

"I love to compete," Delano said.

"Anything I do whether it's on the court or off the court is competitive. I think it's fun to compete whether it's the back row or the front row."

Cook said Delano's surgery gave her the opportunity to start developing into the player he thought she could be when he recruited her out of Bellevue, Neb., West High School.

"The surgery she had fixed a lot of her issues," Cook said. "There was a lot going on with that. I think that was the biggest change for her, getting all that taken care of."

"That wasn't a shoulder or elbow injury. I think getting healthy for her was the biggest change. I think it allowed her to work at a level she wanted to work at and have energy."

Cook had to decide where to play Delano this fall. With Licht back to 100 percent, the obvious position for her was middle blocker. Cook said it was important to get Licht settled in to one position.

He didn't want to use her as a utility player like he did in 2008 when the Husker roster was depleted because of injuries and defections.

"We were debating where to play her, opposite or in the middle," Cook said. "We thought she could have the biggest impact playing in the middle. She still has a long way to go. She's only played a handful of matches as a starting middle blocker. So she's relatively young and inexperienced, but we really like what she's doing."

"She's taken over some matches. If you can get a middle to do that, it frees up so much for the outside hitters."

Delano is happy to be settled in at

middle blocker, but she said the experience of playing several positions certainly has helped.

"Every position helps the other positions," Delano said. "In the middle, hitting quick. If you're on the right side maybe you can hit it quick. Every position helps out."

Delano was averaging 2.32 kills per set on .367 hitting through the first 11 matches of the season. She also was leading the Huskers in blocking with 1.24 blocks for set.

"Her upside is big time," Cook said.

"She still needs experience. She's making errors that (Amanda) Gates or Tracy Stalls wouldn't be making in their junior and senior year, but again Brooke doesn't have the experience."

STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES

With the Huskers approaching the halfway point in the season, Cook has learned a few things about his team.

He didn't want to name their weaknesses, but he had seen enough to know that the Huskers can play well at times.

"The strengths are when we play well, we do some great things," Cook said. "We just have to learn how to do it for a longer period of time, game after game after game. I think this team is trying to figure that out."

TOUGH BIG 12

Some years it has been Nebraska and Texas battling it out for Big 12 supremacy with no real other challenges in the conference. It's not that way this year.

Texas and Nebraska are both Top-10 teams with Iowa State right on the verge of the Top 10. Baylor has been in the top 25 and Texas A&M is rapidly moving up.

"I think this is one of the best years," Cook said of the conference. "Obviously Iowa State has made a big statement. They're experienced. I think they feel like they're a really good team."

"I know Baylor is senior loaded. Texas

A&M is senior loaded. Those kids are going to be hungry."

HIGH ON ANDERSON

How good is Husker setter Sydney Anderson? Cook said she's as good as they come. Anderson was a second-team All-American last year. Cook says she's even better this season.

"She's a great volleyball player," Cook said. "I started saying this the first part of the season. When you look at what she does, she has to be one of the top five volleyball players in the country. She has the complete package. She does everything at the setter position. She's doing a great job of running our offense and makes great decisions. I think she's a special player." **N**

2009 VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Aug. 22	Red/White Scrimmage, 7 p.m.
Aug. 28-29	Runza/AVCA Showcase
Aug. 28	*vs. Michigan, L, 3-0
Aug. 29	*vs. Minnesota, W, 3-2
Sept. 1	Creighton, W, 3-0
Sept. 4-5	at LSU Tournament
Sept. 4	vs. UL-Lafayette, W, 3-0
	at LSU, W, 3-2
Sept. 5	vs. Tulane, W, 3-0
Sept. 10-13	Ameritas Players Challenge
Sept. 10	Virginia, W, 3-0
Sept. 11	BYU, W, 3-1
Sept. 13	^UCLA, L, 3-2
Sept. 16	Texas Tech, W, 3-0
Sept. 19	at Colorado, W, 3-0
Sept. 23	at Texas A&M, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. 26	Texas, 1 p.m.
Sept. 30	at Oklahoma, 7 p.m.
Oct. 7	Kansas, 7 p.m.
Oct. 10	Kansas State, 7 p.m.
Oct. 14	at Baylor, 7 p.m.
Oct. 17	at Missouri, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 21	Iowa State, 7 p.m.
Oct. 24	Oklahoma, TBA
Oct. 28	at Texas Tech, 6:30 p.m.
Oct. 30	at Texas, 6:30 p.m.
Nov. 4	Missouri, 7 p.m.
Nov. 7	at Iowa State, TBA
Nov. 13	Texas A&M, 7 p.m.
Nov. 18	Baylor, 7 p.m.
Nov. 21	at Kansas, 6:30 p.m.
Nov. 25	at Kansas State, 7 p.m.
Nov. 28	Colorado, 7 p.m.
Dec. 4-5	NCAA 1st/2nd Rounds, TBA
Dec. 11-12	*NCAA Regionals, TBA
Dec. 17	NCAA Semifinals, Finals
	* at Qwest Center, Omaha
	^ at Bob Devaney Sports Center

Basketball

LANCE JETER

BY BRIAN ROSENTHAL

New point guard learning role as floor general



A multi-sport athlete at Beaver Falls High School in Pennsylvania, Lance Jeter decided football would be his sport in college.

So Jeter, who caught 50 passes for 810 yards and 15 touchdowns his senior season and was named the Pittsburgh Post Gazette male athlete of the year, signed a football letter of intent with Cincinnati.

At the time, Jeter felt that was the right decision. He says now he may have listened to some bad advice.

"It just didn't work out," said Jeter, who left Cincinnati after he redshirted the 2006 season.

Jeter not only left the Bearcats when coach Mark Dantonio departed for Michigan State, he left football altogether, choosing to focus on basketball.

It's a move he doesn't regret.

"Now, it's a blessing to be here at Nebraska," Jeter said, "one of the top schools in the country."

Jeter, at 6-foot-3 and 225 pounds – and getting lighter – is vying to replace Cookie Miller as Nebraska's starting point guard. His main challengers are true freshman Ray Gallegos and sophomore Brandon Richardson, although Jeter's experience at the junior college level may give him an edge.

"Everybody respects him," senior guard Ryan Anderson said. "There's something about when you're playing with a point guard, a really good point guard, it's like you connect with him."

"My freshman year, I played with Charles Richardson, and that was a point guard that made it easy for me. And when I play with Lance, and I see how easy he makes it for me, there's like a connection there."

When Jeter left Cincinnati, he had an offer to play basketball at Akron. But he thought he could work to improve his stock and gain a scholarship offer from a school from a bigger conference.

So he headed south to Polk Community College in Florida, where he played for coach Matt Furjanic, a native of the Pittsburgh area and a former coach at Robert Morris. Jeter averaged 16.3 points, 5.8 rebounds and 5.4 assists as a freshman, then 15.9 points, 5.7 rebounds and 4.6 assists as a sophomore, when he was named the Florida Community College Activities Association player of the year.

Sure enough, bigger schools began showing interest. Nebraska needed immediate help at point guard, what with Miller transferring, and Jeter felt he connected with coach Doc Sadler.

After a few weeks of individual workouts with Sadler, and playing pick-up games with his teammates, Jeter is gaining a better feel for his role on the team.

"Doc was definitely on me, especially with me being the point guard," Jeter said. "I've got to be a leader out there. Me not communicating with my teammates, encouraging them and telling them to come on, he's on me about that. I took that to heart. And he was right. I definitely have to speak up and help them out, because there's going to be big crowds every night, so I have to speak up and be a vocal leader."

"I just have to make sure that everything's

calm, that we're calm on the floor, and know that Doc sees I have everything under control, that he doesn't have to babysit through the whole game."

Jeter, who's joining the Huskers with his Polk teammate, forward Quincy Hankins-Cole, said he's been challenged by trying to take a leadership role as a newcomer. While he's a junior by age, he sometimes feels as if he's viewed as a freshman.

"I'm a junior, so I don't really have that much time to be slacking. Everybody knows I want to win, I love to win," Jeter said. "Just make sure that I don't step on anybody's toes, that I don't disrespect anybody, but making sure that they're learning and I'm learning as well."

Jeter came to Lincoln weighing close to 235 pounds. He's already down to 225 and says he wants to be below 220, perhaps around 215, by the time the season begins.

"I'm feeling strong, feeling faster. Workouts are going good," he said. "That's what's going to help the team be better, and me be better, so I can guard these great guards in this league. I feel like if I'm down there (at 215), I can compete with them."

SCHAMBER JOINS STAFF

Tony Schamber is joining Doc Sadler's staff as graduate manager-player development. He replaces Bill Shaw, who served the role for one season and is returning to live in Texas.

Schamber joined the athletic department in 2008 and worked directly with the men's basketball team last season as an assistant academic counselor. He came to Nebraska from his alma mater of Wyoming, where he was with the men's basketball program for four years, including one as director of operations.

Schamber's playing career began at Wyoming, where he spent one season before transferring to Sheridan College. He

also played one season at Chadron State.

TV GAMES ANNOUNCED

Nebraska will appear on television 20 times during the 2009-10 men's basketball regular season.

Fox Sports Midwest will carry four non-conference games (at Saint Louis, UMKC, Chicago State, Oregon State) and four Big 12 Conference games (Iowa State, at Kansas State, at Iowa State, Colorado). Also, FSN will provide a national telecast of Nebraska's game at USC as part of the Big 12-Pac 10 Challenge.

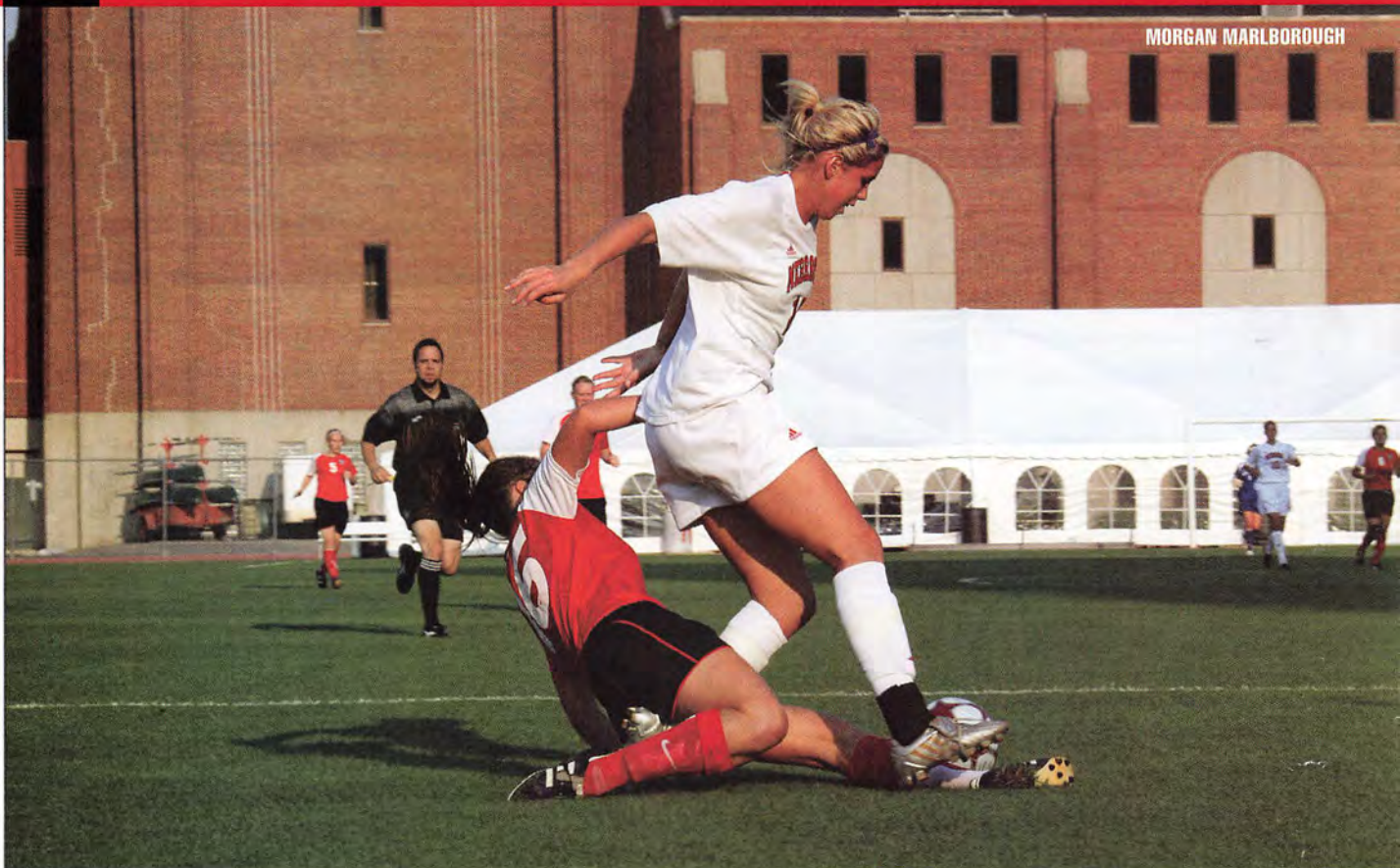
The Huskers will appear twice on ESPN2 (Kansas, Baylor) and once on ESPNU (at Kansas). The Big 12 Network will broadcast eight Big 12 games involving Nebraska. **N**

2009 MEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Nov. 6	Arkansas-Fort Smith (exh.), 7 p.m.
Nov. 10	Hastings (exh.), 7 p.m.
Nov. 14	South Carolina Upstate, TBD
Nov. 18	at Saint Louis, TBD
Nov. 21	TCU, TBD
Nov. 24	UMKC, 7 p.m.
Nov. 29	at USC, TBD
Dec. 2	Texas-Pan American, 7 p.m.
Dec. 6	at Creighton, TBD
Dec. 10	Chicago State, 7 p.m.
Dec. 12	Oregon State, TBD
Dec. 19	Jackson State, 7 p.m. at Las Vegas Classic
Dec. 22	vs. Tulsa, 7 p.m.
Dec. 23	vs. BYU or Nevada, 7 or 9:30 p.m.
Dec. 29	Southern Utah, 7 p.m.
Jan. 2	Maryland Eastern Shore, TBD
Jan. 5	Southeastern Louisiana, 7 p.m.
Jan. 9	at Texas A&M, 3 p.m., Big 12 Network
Jan. 13	Kansas, 8 p.m., ESPN2
Jan. 16	Iowa State, TBD
Jan. 23	at Missouri, 5 p.m., Big 12 Network
Jan. 27	at Colorado, TBD
Jan. 30	Oklahoma, 12:30 p.m., Big 12 Network
Feb. 2	Kansas State, 7 p.m., Big 12 Network
Feb. 6	at Kansas, 5 p.m., ESPN2
Feb. 10	Baylor, 8 p.m., ESPN2
Feb. 13	at Texas, 3 p.m., Big 12 Network
Feb. 17	at Kansas State, TBD
Feb. 20	Missouri, 5 p.m., Big 12 Network
Feb. 24	at Iowa State, TBD
Feb. 27	Texas Tech, 3 p.m., Big 12 Network
Mar. 2	Colorado, TBD
Mar. 6	at Okla. St., 12:30 p.m., Big 12 Network at Big 12 Championship
Mar. 10-13	at Kansas City, Mo. (Sprint Center)

Around the Horn

MORGAN MARLBOROUGH



SOCCER Marlborough just getting started

BY TOMMY DAHLK

It may be tough to fathom, but Husker soccer player Morgan Marlborough really hasn't even begun to scratch her potential.

Wait, wasn't the 6-foot freshman from Lee's Summit, Mo., leading the nation in goals and scoring early in the season?

That's true, but Nebraska coach John Walker says it's merely Marlborough's opening act.

"She's still nowhere near a finished product," Walker said. "There are still a lot of things she can improve on with her box-finishing and heading."

So far, Marlborough has enjoyed the kind of start freshmen dream about. In her first four games, she notched four goals and two assists en route to the Huskers' 2-1-1 start.

However, at the adidas Husker Classic, Marlborough really started to turn some heads.

Against North Dakota, she scored two goals and had two assists in a 6-1 victory.

Despite the two goals, Marlborough thinks she might have let a few get away.

"In the North Dakota game, I had 10 shots," she said. "There were a few

more I definitely should have scored on. But I'm creating the chances, and I just need to start finishing them off."

But she made up for it fast. In a 7-1 victory against Akron in the Husker Classic, Marlborough didn't have trouble capitalizing on her opportunities and found the back of the net four times. The four goals against Akron tied the Huskers' single-game goal-scoring record.

Through six games, Marlborough's 10 goals and four assists already ranked No. 6 all-time among Husker freshmen.

Did she expect that kind of outburst to start the season and her career?

Marlborough said she just wanted to make sure she did her job and that goals would come if she did.

"I just wanted to come here and work hard," she said. "My ultimate goal was to try to start. Once I started starting, I wanted to try to score a few goals and be dangerous because that's my job."

Marlborough hopes she can continue her blistering scoring pace as the Huskers head into Big 12 Conference play and look to make the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2005.

Walker is confident Marlborough will continue to excel.

"The nice thing is she's a hard worker," Walker said. "She doesn't mind doing the physical aspects of playing and doesn't mind working defensively as a striker." **N**

CROSS COUNTRY SWEEPS TEAM TITLES



The Nebraska cross country teams put on an impressive show for the home crowd at Pioneer's Park on Sept. 26 for the 20th Annual Woody Greeno/Nebraska Invitational. The Huskers swept the university division team crowns, while junior Lara Crofford and sophomore David Adams (pictured below) won the individual titles. The team wins marked the fourth straight year that the Huskers have swept the team titles and the ninth time overall in the meet's 20-year history that the Huskers have pulled off the clean sweep.





BIG JAKE - Larry Jacobson (1969-70-71) didn't expect to be Nebraska's first major award winner. He certainly didn't expect to win the Outland Trophy as a senior in 1971. In fact, he didn't even know what the Outland Trophy was. When Cornhusker defensive line coach Monte Kiffin called to tell him he had been selected as the winner of the award, presented annually to college football's most outstanding lineman, the big defensive tackle from Sioux Falls, S.D., had to ask what exactly it was he had won. Opposing quarterbacks, in particular, knew who the Cornhuskers' No. 75 was. Though sacks weren't included in Nebraska's statistics until 1982, Jacobson had 12 tackles for 73 yards in losses among his 73 total tackles in 1971. He was the first of seven Cornhuskers to win the Outland Trophy (eight trophies total), and he was a first-team Academic All-American as well. He also won the Knute Rockne Award in 1971 and was a finalist for the Lombardi Award.

GAMES REMEMBERED

Sept. 29, 2001 • at Columbia, Mo.



A month before what would become the signature play of his Heisman Trophy-winning senior season – the throwback pass from Mike Stuntz for a touchdown against Oklahoma – Eric Crouch had another Heisman moment. Nebraska faced third-and-8 at its own 5-yard line.

The play called was a pass, a short out-route. Under pressure, Crouch stepped up and took off,

after breaking a sack attempt (and avoiding a safety) by Missouri defensive end Nick Tarpoff. By the end of the run, the longest from scrimmage in Nebraska history, Crouch's closest pursuer was teammate Wilson Thomas. The previous record, 94 yards, was shared by Craig Johnson and Roger Craig.

Crouch also broke the regular-season, single-game rushing record by a quarterback, with 191 yards on 17 carries. Gerry Gdowski held the previous record, 174 yards against Iowa State in 1989. Tommie Frazier held the overall record, 199 yards against Florida in the 1996 Fiesta Bowl.

Nebraska had established control before the first of two Crouch touchdown runs, thanks to the Blackshirts. Though Missouri gained 108 yards and picked up seven first downs in the first quarter, it came away with only three points. And it couldn't move the ball the rest of the way.

The Tigers, who finished with just 68 yards rushing, managed only 97 yards and six first downs in the final three quarters. Linebacker

Nebraska 36, Missouri 3

Nebraska	0	13	9	14	--	36
Missouri	3	0	0	0	-	3

- (M) Brad Hammerich 28 field goal
- (N) Dahrran Diedrick 1 run (Sandro DeAngelis kick)
- (N) Diedrick 4 run (kick failed)
- (N) Josh Brown 38 field goal
- (N) Eric Crouch 95 run (pass failed)
- (N) Crouch 15 run (Brown kick)
- (N) Jammal Lord 1 run (Brown kick)

Attendance: 64,204

Scott Shanle led Nebraska with eight tackles, and cornerback DeJuan Groce broke up four passes, as well as returning seven punts for 145 yards.

FRANK SOLICH ON ERIC CROUCH: "He was just marvelous. Today was one of his best performances. You get used to that with Eric."

DO YOU REMEMBER? Eric Crouch earned some "jungle karma" for his Heisman Trophy candidacy on the Wednesday before the game, appearing on the nationally syndicated Jim Rome radio show. During a 10-minute interview, Rome said of Crouch: "He's a very poised guy, very composed player."

Crouch earned Nebraska's third Heisman Trophy. The top four finishers behind him, in order, were: Rex Grossman, Florida; Ken Dorsey, Miami; Joey Harrington, Oregon; David Carr, Fresno State.

Oregon spent a quarter of a million dollars (according to Sports Illustrated) on a 10-story billboard in New York City, promoting Harrington's Heisman candidacy.

Only two top-10 finishers in the 2000 Heisman race returned in 2001: Northwestern's Damien Anderson (fifth) and Oregon State's Ken Simonton (sixth). Neither finished in the top 10 in 2001.

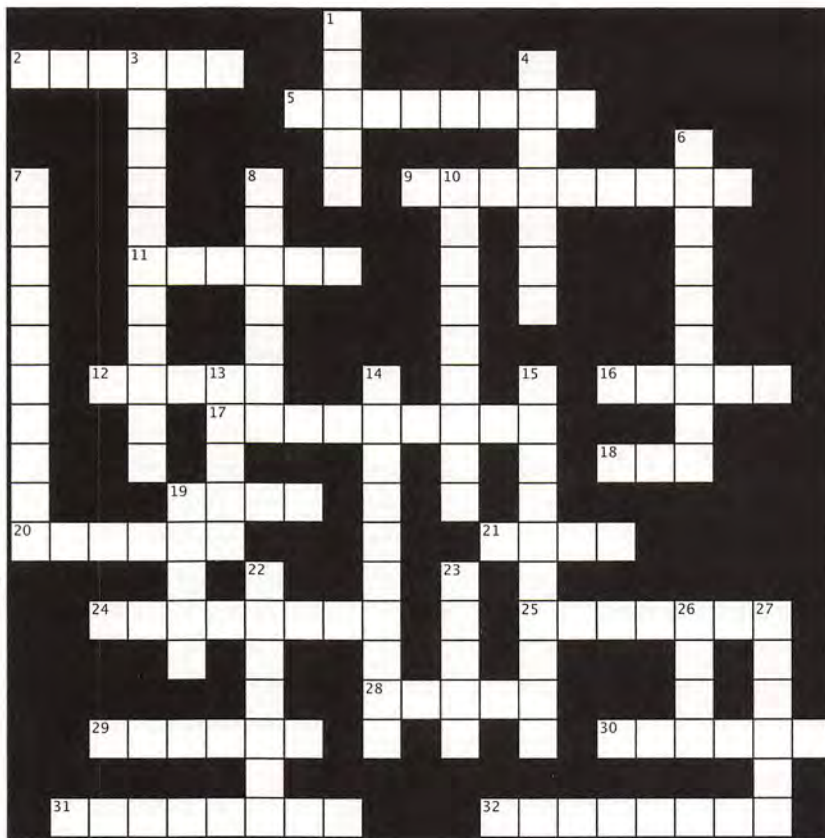
CROSSWORD & TRIVIA

ACROSS

2. Head strength coach
5. Missouri campus location
9. Wears No. 11
11. Ex-Husker defensive end now with Buffalo Bills
12. Missouri's 2008 bowl game
16. First Husker selected in 2009 NFL Draft
17. Wears No. 21
18. Leading tackler vs. Virginia Tech
19. Leading receiver vs. Virginia Tech
20. 2006 College Football Hall of Fame inductee
21. Number of Alex Henery field goals vs. Virginia Tech
24. First-round selection in 2007 NFL Draft
25. Missouri quarterback
28. 2010 non-conference opponent
29. Missouri home field
30. Missouri head coach
31. Wears No. 22
32. Ex-Husker safety now with Chicago Bears

DOWN

1. Wore retired No. 64
 3. Wears No. 55
 4. Linebacker who made first start of season vs. Virginia Tech
 6. Oct. 17 opponent
 7. Ex-Husker running back now with Denver Broncos
 8. 2009 College Football Hall of Fame inductee
 10. Oct. 24 opponent
 13. Head football trainer
 14. Zac Lee's home state
 15. 2010 non-conference road opponent
 19. Wears No. 74
 22. Wide receivers coach
 23. Wore retired No. 60
 26. Network for NU-Missouri telecast
- Answers will appear in the Oct. 17 issue



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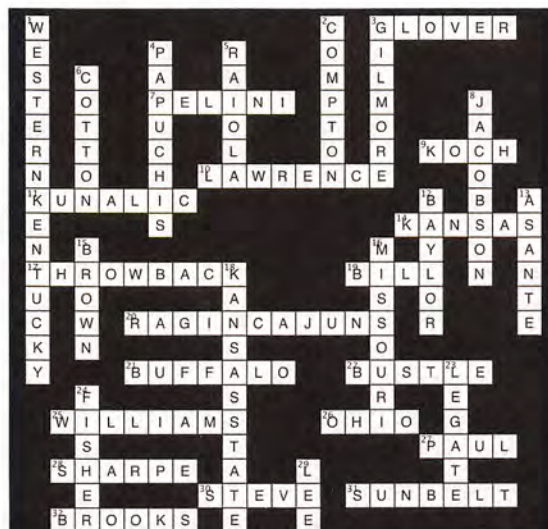
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SEPT. 26 CROSSWORD SOLUTION





THE FINAL WORD

BY MIKE BABCOCK

This game was a tribute to fans

ONCE THE GAME was under control – and by halftime, if not before, it was – Zac Lee could allow himself to appreciate the day-long celebration. “We’re going to be the answer to some pretty cool trivia questions,” he said following Nebraska’s 55-0 victory against Louisiana-Lafayette.

The answer will continue to change each time the Cornhuskers play at home for the foreseeable future. The NCAA-record, home-sellout streak isn’t going to end any time soon.

No disrespect intended, but Louisiana-Lafayette was incidental to the proceedings at Memorial Stadium on this particular night. The Rajin’ Cajuns weren’t allowed to spoil the festivities.

“It’s never easy; you know that,” Nebraska coach Bo Pelini said.

But his team played with focus and emotion, and certainly made it look easy.

So consider the celebration, which has been in the works, you might say, since Nov. 3, 1962, when Missouri came to town and handed Bob Devaney his first loss as coach at Nebraska.

Memorial Stadium’s capacity for that game was just over 31,000.

The Cornhuskers have lost only 38 times at home since then.

Twenty-one players and four coaches from the 1962 team returned to Lincoln for the weekend to certify consecutive sellout No. 300. Two F-16 jets flew over Memorial Stadium before the opening kickoff. And five familiar faces appeared on the video screens during the game.

The first was former ABC broadcaster Keith Jackson. The second was Ohio coach Frank Solich. The third was

Buffalo coach Turner Gill. The fourth was former Oklahoma coach Barry Switzer. And the fifth was Wisconsin Athletic Director Barry Alvarez. They all offered best wishes on No. 300.

The Cornhuskers wore throwback uniforms, of course, which are being auctioned, Nos. 1 through 99, with a half-dozen exceptions, including the retired numbers of Tom Novak (60) and Bob Brown (64), as well as numbers not assigned to players on this year’s team.

The auction, conducted on Huskers.com, is to end on Oct. 4.

The minimum bid for the game-used jerseys, pants and helmets was \$500, and as of the night of the game, all numbers had received bids, with the lowest at \$600 and the highest, Ndamukong Suh’s No. 93, at \$3,125. The bid on the No. 93 set was among 26 at \$1,000 or more.

Suh was the first Cornhusker off the field when the game ended. The senior defensive tackle hustled through the doors in the northwest corner. But most of the players lingered.

“I was just trying to soak it all in,” said redshirted freshman linebacker Sean Fisher.

So were the fans, who remained even though there was no suspense to keep them. Oh yes, appropriately enough, attendance was a stadium record 86,304.

“We knew there would be a lot of bells and whistles and things like that,” senior center Jacob Hickman said.

“Coach Bo kind of told us to ignore it, but once we got out there, (the crowd) was well over capacity, and it was a little extra excitement . . . you could feel some extra energy from the fans. It kind of

energized us. I definitely felt it.”

The sellout streak, after all, is a tribute to the fans, driven by success over five decades, with but a blip in recent seasons – to which the hiring of Pelini was a response.

The entire team suited up for the game, “the first time we’ve done that since I’ve been the head coach,” said Pelini. “It was a pretty special night, obviously, with the celebration . . . there were a lot of kids who got the chance to share in that and play in that.”

Pelini used 83 players, about two dozen more than suited up for the first game in the sellout streak, back when NCAA substitution rules didn’t allow for offensive and defensive units.

The post-game production included fireworks above the rim of the north stadium, along with video clips of Husker greats from 1962 to the present – Alex Henery’s 57-yard field goal against Colorado last season was a favorite – accompanied by music from each decade, beginning with Crosby, Stills and Nash, “Our House,” and concluding with Matchbox 20, “How Far We’ve Come.”

Before the fireworks, Athletic Director Tom Osborne appeared on the video screens, suggesting that in 15 years, Cornhusker fans would be celebrating consecutive sellout No. 400.

“It’s very special to Nebraska, and it will never happen again,” Lee said.

No other school is likely to reach 300. But even if one were to get there, say Notre Dame (which is a distant second), Nebraska’s streak would still be out of reach. **N**

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

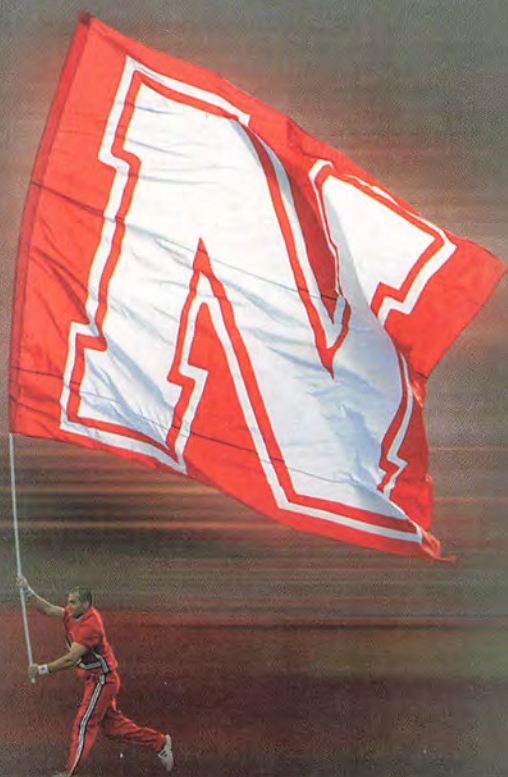


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2009 Nebraska Football Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time/Results
Sat, Sep 05	Florida Atlantic	Memorial Stadium	W, 49-3
Sat, Sep 12	Arkansas State	Memorial Stadium	W, 38-9
Sat, Sep 19	at Virginia Tech	at Blacksburg, VA	L, 15-16
Sat, Sep 26	Louisiana-Lafayette	Memorial Stadium	W, 55-0
Thu, Oct 08	at Missouri *	at Columbia, MO	8 p.m., ESPN
Sat, Oct 17	Texas Tech *	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Sat, Oct 24	Iowa State *	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Sat, Oct 31	at Baylor *	at Waco, TX	TBA
Sat, Nov 07	Oklahoma *	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Sat, Nov 14	at Kansas *	at Lawrence, KS	TBA
Sat, Nov 21	Kansas State *	Memorial Stadium	TBA
Fri, Nov 27	at Colorado *	at Boulder, CO	2:30 p.m., ABC
Sat, Dec 5	Big 12 Championship	Arlington, TX (Dallas Cowboys New Stadium)	TBA

* Conference games



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